

Hafa Adai!

Man arrested in theft of
FEMA genset's battery.

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PAWS disbands after
2 decades.

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Budget passes; shutdown averted



Gov. Eloy S. Inos puts pen to paper to sign his name on a \$145-million fiscal year 2016 budget bill, effectively saving the CNMI from a government shutdown today.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Tourism money was cut and law enforcers' salary raises were dropped, among others, in a \$145-million budget bill for fiscal year 2016 that Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law yesterday afternoon.

Inos' signature effectively averted an impending government shutdown if he had not signed a budget bill by today, Sept. 30, the end of the fiscal year. "We have a budget and I will sign it," Inos told a crowd of Cabinet heads, lawmakers, and administration officials who gathered at the gover-

nor's conference room at 4pm to await Inos.

As soon as he signed the budget bill, Inos said, "No shutdown!" to applause from the crowd gathered.

The governor arrived more than a half hour late to read through a draft letter describing the budget. **See BUDGET on Page 3**

DLNR slams 'incomplete, flawed' DEIS

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources and its Division of Fish and Wildlife made public yesterday their formal comments on the Department of Defense's CNMI Joint Military Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The 131-page response to the Department of Defense's proposal to establish extensive live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan islands describes a flawed and incomplete DEIS that fails to provide decision-makers with an accurate assessment of the widespread and egregious impact of the DOD's proposals on the environment and the

natural resources of the CNMI.

Loss of bird species

The proposed actions in the DEIS will prevent the recovery of a number of threatened or endangered species, including the Mariana fruit bat, Micronesian megapode, Nightingale reed-warbler, and Mariana common moorhen, as well as the Tinian monarch, a forest bird found only on Tinian, that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced may be added to the endangered species list.

In addition to threatened and endangered species, the DEIS must address impacts on Marianas endemic species (those

See DLNR on Page 4

CPA eyes suit for 2 vessels that ran aground

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board is on the cusp of suing a company that owns two ships that ran aground in CNMI waters because nothing is being done yet by agencies that are responsible for the two vessels.

The two vessels—*Lady Carolina* and *Miss Saipan*—are owned by Saipan USA Fisheries Inc. that used to be tied up in a bankruptcy proceeding.

CPA Saipan port manager Christopher Tenorio told the board that divers who inspected the docks for damage in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor have recommended that the Delta dock be condemned, in part due to the proximity to the two grounded ships. Delta dock is located at the north end near the CPA building at

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A man waits for colleagues at the Delta dock of the Port of Saipan to post up a sign for no entry to any vehicles or patrons since the dock is structurally unsound. Seen behind him is *Miss Saipan's* prow that is now resting on the dock.

JAYSON CAMACHO

Lawmakers fume over allegedly conflicting Finance reports on years-old funds

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Lawmakers are incensed about allegedly conflicting reports from the Finance Department on the funding status of a "slush

account" that they had tapped to fund several appropriation bills this year.

Reps. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) and Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) want bills they say have been "collecting dust" at

the committee level to move, but were informed during a Monday session by House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Antonio Sablan (R-Saipan) that Finance had reported that these funds had been zeroed out.

Yumul's House bills 19-35, and 19-36, and Propst's 19-048 appropriated funds from an "alien deportation account" signed into law in late 1990s. They claim that Finance had told them funds are available.

This account expired sometime after the mid-2000s, according to the lawmakers.

The lawmakers' angst about their inactive bills prompted them to raise the issue during discussion of another bill—

from the majority bloc of the House—that was set for first and final reading and eventually passed on Monday.

Yumul and Propst are minority lawmakers.

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Docomo Pacific brings back the Kids4kids Carnival to the CNMI.

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LOCAL

Eskuelan San Francisco De Borja hosts a walkathon fundraiser for Saipan.

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LOCAL

The Micronesia Conservation Trust sets up a new leadership structure.

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Local

Anti-domestic violence office burglarized; suspect arrested

The Domestic Violence Intervention Office on Capital Hill was burglarized and several items were stolen last Sept. 15. Police arrested one suspect on Friday.

Franklin C. Crisostomo, 35, was served with an arrest warrant on Capital Hill on a charge of receiving stolen property. His bail was set at \$20,000 cash. Preliminary hearing is on Oct. 7 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nebit was appointed as counsel for Crisostomo.

Police said an officer was dispatched to a burglary and theft incident on Sept. 15 at the Domestic Violence Intervention Office. The officer determined that the point of entry was the sliding window on the northern portion of the office.

Stolen were a box-type Toshiba TV, an office desk for an Acer computer, a Lenovo laptop with bag, several Family Violence plastic bags, and Family Violence task force purple and black bags.

Later that afternoon, police officer Catherine B. Pangelinan received anonymous tips that Crisostomo had been seen unloading stolen items into his house and then loading some

back into a red car.

Pangelinan said on the following day, Sept. 16, a police officer called her that he made a violator stop of Crisostomo's red car by Tanapag Mobil. Two women in the car told police that the last person who used the car was Crisostomo.

During a search of the car, police found boxes of ink for a printer, one silver box projector, a red and black box for a Casio camera with USB cords in it, and several cans of paint thinner and paint.

The next day, Pangelinan received information that Crisostomo had approached a person two nights before, offering to sell government items from inside the red car. The person saw a gray box projector, a laptop, a camera, and several bags that have the words "family violence" written on them. Some of the items had government tags on them.

On Sept. 18, Crisostomo's brother called police for help in evicting Crisostomo and a woman from his apartment. As Pangelinan and another detective were helping the woman carry her items out, Pangelinan noticed a Toshiba TV on top of a small table next to the bed. She

also noticed the shape of a government tag removed from the top of the TV.

The woman told her that Crisostomo brought a lot of items into the house two days ago. She also saw government tags peeled off from the items.

With the help of the woman, Pangelinan recovered some of the government tags from a trash bag.

The woman said she moved to Crisostomo's apartment only a week ago. She revealed that two days before, she and another woman noticed that Crisostomo brought some items inside her room like a Family Violence backpack, a Lenovo laptop, a desktop, a split type air-conditioner, and other items.

A day before Crisostomo brought the items to the apartment, he allegedly asked them if they could drop him off at his cousin's house on Capital Hill. The two women dropped Crisostomo off near the Domestic Violence Intervention Office.

On Sept. 18, two detectives brought the Toshiba TV that was found in Crisostomo's room to the Domestic Violence Intervention Office, where a staff positively identified it as the one that used to be in their conference room.

Another staff also identified the red camera box as government property. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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DOCOMO'S KIDS4KIDS CARNIVAL**Hundreds of kids flock to see Spongebob and pals**

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

After a two-year hiatus, Docomo Pacific brought back the Kids4kids Carnival to the

CNMI on Monday and yesterday, bringing with them Spongebob from *Spongebob Squarepants*, Diego from *Go Diego Go*, and Millie and Geo from *Team Umizoomi*, much to

the delight of hundreds of children who trooped to the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort to see their favorite Nickelodeon characters.

Children of all ages, along with their parents and guardians, were treated to an hour of entertainment and games, as well as food and other fun stuff. Each kid also got to bring home a balloon-shaped Spongebob or Dora the Explorer.

"Their excitement is very pure, the energy. There's nothing better than seeing a smiling child," said Thomas Higa, Docomo Pacific's chief commercial officer.

A total of about 2,400 people enjoyed the four shows during the two-day event. The usual ticket price is \$7 but Docomo slashed the price on Saipan to just \$3.50.

"Saipan is special today," Higa

said. "Because of the devastation here, we cut the ticket price in half... to help the families here because times are hard right now. The last thing we want them to worry about is a \$7 price."

Higa said that Docomo has always been about the community, especially the kids. Through their Kids4kids events, they are able to help more children.

"It's for the benefit of children, children events to help

the children. We use the money to do all the children's events," Higa said.

Part of the money from this event as well as their upcoming golf tournament may be used to help the local hospital's pediatric ward, to set up television sets with cable connection to entertain kids.

Higa said they also are thinking of bringing their Christmas event for kids in Guam to Saipan.

"I definitely want to do the 'Movies with Santa' here. It will be the first time; we've done it three years successfully in Guam. I think it's something that the kids here will appreciate," he said.

BUDGET

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ing his much anticipated budget decision and its line-item vetoes on provisions that the administration deemed unconstitutional or unfair.

Inos said it was "not a perfect budget," but through vetting by the Executive Branch—which he conceded still had some disagreements over the measure—the administration arrived at a balanced budget to avoid a government shutdown.

Inos said he would approve a majority of the budget but disapprove some of the "problematic provisions in the administrative provisions of the bill."

The House and Senate had modified Inos-directed hotel tax earmarks, effectively cutting \$2.5 million from the Marianas Visitors Authority programs to fund other needs. That remained in the budget Inos signed yesterday afternoon.

The House and Senate also gave 5-percent salary increases for law enforcement personnel but Inos line-item vetoed this provision. For one, the provision did not give similar raises for personnel on Rota and Tinian, and two, the provision did not adequately source funding for the raises, Inos said.

The vetoed provision mandated that "5 percent of the law enforcement personnel bud-

get appropriations" of various CNMI departments would be "allocated to provide for 5-percent salary increase of current law enforcement personnel." But the provision did not define clearly where this money would come from.

Administration officials were concerned that this provision would essentially force departments to pull from their existing funds to support the increase. That could compromise other funding—for tires or bullets, for instance—officials earlier said.

"We find this [provision] to be unfair," Inos said, referring to it as "controversial."

"It does not cover salary increases for law enforcement in the first and second senatorial districts. It only applies to the third senatorial district. So we don't believe that that's a fair and equitable to allow for these increases to occur."

"Secondly, it's not clear how this increase is to be funded," Inos said. "There are various scenarios, but in the end, there may not be a salary increase because there is just no funds available or associated [funds available]."

"This is not to say we will never address this," Inos added. "The Legislature should continue to deliberate on this issue."

On the "redirection of MVA earmarks," Inos said the Executive Branch found this provision

to be "detrimental to the tourism industry."

"But," he said, "we should take heed on some of the recommendations that the community has, and maybe, we should continue to find new sources of revenue and or improve the economy in such a manner that we can follow the momentum of...the developments these new projects have in store for us."

Inos did not specify further

on this provision. Officials and reporters wanted to know if MVA earmark cuts stayed or were line-item vetoed. Various officials and lawmakers initially understood Inos to mean that the MVA provision was vetoed, and the MVA money left untouched.

In an interview, Inos clarified that the provision was left in the bill but "with comment."

Inos emphasized these kind of provisions should provide

a clear "nexus" on the use of funds between the program that is modified and the agency or program receiving the funds.

The \$2.5 million from the CNMI's tourism body goes to the following: \$1,802,403 for Department of Public Work streetlights, \$200,000 for stationary x-ray machine for the Saipan airport; \$225,000 for a container and loose cargo x-

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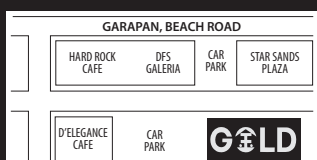
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CPA

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the Port of Saipan. Right now, Saipan Sea Ventures uses that dock but it is trying to find another location and vehicles, pedestrians, and vessels are not allowed in the area, according to Tenorio. He hopes to meet with Saipan Sea Ventures sometime this

week for a timeline on their plan to move out of the area. “However, the two vessels are still out there,” Tenorio said. CPA legal counsel Robert Torres said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and one other company have deemed the Delta dock as “not sound.” “The advice is that it is structurally unsound so it is a risk,” Torres told board members. “We have to...commission a

study on its condition and what has to be done and the cost for it. That will bring further issues into any possible plans due to ongoing interest of expansions of tenants.” CPA officials noted that *Lady Carolina* is out in the reef area and isn’t under their jurisdiction but under the Department of Lands and Natural Resources. *Miss Saipan* is aground and is attached to the Delta dock—ba-

sically the ship’s front area is on top of the dock.

Salvage the ship, seek federal help

Torres explained to the CPA board the legalities surrounding the grounded vessels. “CPA has no role over there. They had bankruptcy proceedings, but the bankruptcy judge and trustee dismissed the proceedings because there are not

enough assets to pay the creditors,” Torres said. CPA tried to ask the Federal Emergency Management Agency for public assistance in the removal of the vessel but “we haven’t heard back from FEMA,” he said. Torres said if the vessel owners do not step up within the next week or two, CPA will have to file a complaint for the salvage of the vessels—to basically

chop it up. He said the CNMI government could possibly join in the complaint, suing the owners of *Lady Carolina* and *Miss Saipan* and its creditors for the salvage of the vessels. Saipan USA Fisheries has three secured creditors: the Commonwealth Development Authority, Independence Bank, and the First Hawaiian Bank. CPA will also have to com-

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DLNR

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found only in the Marianas) and special-status species including those protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. But the DEIS does not assess impacts on special-status species on an individual basis. It only analyses impacts on three out of 39 MBTA bird species on Tinian and erroneously assumes that all species will be affected in the same way.

It therefore fails to adequately consider the wide-range of impacts to the CNMI’s birds. Impacts of disturbance of species populations were found to be repeatedly underestimated. The DEIS indicates that hundreds of acres of vegetation will be cleared, yet the impacts on native bird species are inaccurately deemed “less than significant.” The impacts of noise on wildlife are seriously underestimated. Also inadequately addressed are the significant nega-

tive impacts of the displacement of wildlife. The DEIS repeatedly claims that individual birds disturbed by activities will relocate to nearby areas. Yet there are no nearby unoccupied areas of suitable habitat that the birds can relocate to. Missing and inadequate impacts assessments DLNR found inadequate coverage of impacts throughout the DEIS. These include the impacts of invasive species in-

troductions to the CNMI and between islands as a result of military transport of participants and materials; impacts to submerged lands; impacts to marine mammals; the impacts of wildfires on terrestrial and marine resources, especially on Pagan which is particularly vulnerable to wildfire; the impacts of amphibious assault vehicles and landing craft air cushion vehicles on turtles, turtle nesting habitats, marine mammals, corals, fish and marine inver-

tebrates; and the effect of soil disturbance and contamination from explosive munitions on groundwater resources. The three alternatives on Tinian and the two alternatives on Pagan presented by the DEIS feature only minimal differences from each other, limiting any real opportunities to actually avoid or minimize environmental impact. The DEIS fails to state how many years the proposed activities can be expected to occur on

Tinian and Pagan, and the time of year that the activities are to take place—both details crucial to an accurate assessment of environmental impacts. The analysis throughout the DEIS only considers the impacts of 20 weeks of live-fire per year on Tinian and 16 weeks per year on Pagan, while stating that 45 weeks of live-fire per year on Tinian and 40 weeks on Pagan are possible in the future. Although the difference in im-

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ray machine for the seaport; \$75,000 for a handheld x-ray scanner for the seaport; and \$200,000 for the Mayor of Saipan for cleanup and beautification projects. Inos said this provision—which in earlier drafts were amendments to the earmark statute—could open a “whole new Pandora’s box.” The compromise version instead cited the Legislature’s authority in mandating modifications to government corporations. The MVA is listed under this provision in the budget law. “If they can do a \$2 million re-direction of funds this year, can they do a three or five million dollars next year?” Inos

asked. “...We are saying this should be done very discreetly. The original intent of the tourism and promotion fund was to enhance the tourism industry, to get out in the market and try to get more visitors.” “So as long as there is a nexus, and in such a manner that it benefits MVA” and the “receiving beneficiary’s” contribution to the tourism industry, Inos said, the Executive Branch believes that the citation of the bill on the use of the MVA funds “may be acceptable.” “But again, it can’t be like that every year—year after year after year,” Inos emphasized. Problematic provisions Among several others, Inos line-item vetoed provisions to fund a “drug court,” provisions that gave 100 percent repro-

gramming authority to the Judiciary and mayors, and a “salary cap exemption” that would allow raises for department heads on Rota and Tinian. “There is no authorization for the drug court as a program to be able to receive any kind of appropriations,” Inos said. “We understand that there is currently a bill in the Legislature. ...We urge the Legislature to enact that bill and then fund it, and make the program viable.” Inos added that the CNMI Attorney General’s advice is that the drug court provision be vetoed “because it is contrary to the Constitution that says that appropriations are for programs that have already been authorized.” For salary cap exemptions, Inos said salary increases are provided for certain positions

and that it was “high time that they sit back and revisit salary compensation for every employee” in government. “This method of providing salary increases to certain provisions on an ad-hoc basis, especially in an appropriations bill, which has a life of only one fiscal year, is not good policy,” Inos said, Inos was referring to the House and Senate “compromise” provisions that mandated \$62,000 annual salary for the special assistant for the Office of Management and Budget, from \$54,000; a 5-percent increase for all law enforcement officers; \$45,000 for resident department heads for Rota and Tinian, from an annual pay of \$36,000; and \$45,000 for the deputy commissioners for Rota and Tinian.

“I urge the members to work together with everyone. If we need to re-commission a salary working group...to really study [the issue] because we know not only the law enforcement folks need the salary increases—just about everyone needs it. There is no justification for not allowing those other employees, especially in the lower echelon not receive any additional compensation.” The salary increases were a compromise provision in the recent and contentious budget talks between the chambers of the Legislature. “He’s right,” House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero said of Inos’ wish that compensation be revisited. “We need to revisit it and update it. The pay scale has been in place long before I came in. There

has been a freeze...so nothing has happened since then. The governor is saying we need to revisit that and make it up to date” as cost of living has gone up. For his part, Deleon Guerrero said he was “relieved” that they avoided a government shutdown and that the delivery of public service would continue. “But the process is not over,” he said. “Now that the message is going to be sent to the presiding officers of the House and Senate, then there is still a last step to this. What is the House and Senate going to do? Are they going to override it or not? And I can’t answer that ’til we look at the budget. The Senate may want to do something, the House may want to... At this point, it’s premature to say...”

LAWMAKERS

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“I appreciate Rep. [Angel] Demapan’s bill,” Propst said, “but let’s not play politics here. Let’s get some other bills moving.” Sablan took issue with this, stating that “people are getting on Facebook and saying that the chairman of Ways and Means isn’t doing his job”—a thinly veiled barb against Propst, an avid Facebook user. “Let me just make it straight for everybody this afternoon,” Sablan said. “The bills that representatives Propst and Yumul are talking about are trying to tap an account that has nothing in it. And that’s coming directly from the secretary of Finance. And so I allow it to gather dust, like they claim. If they think otherwise, then they can bring up the issue with the secretary of Finance. Because I am not going to waste the committee’s time on legislation or appropriation bills that have nothing in their account. “...Let’s stop this thing about the chairman not working or

doing his job,” Sablan went on to say. “I just hope that when you guys put together an appropriation bill, then you verify the fund status before you claim we are not working on it. We can all play this social media game but I take my job seriously.” After further discussion, Sablan said he report these bills out from the committee. In an interview after the session, Propst said he found it “insulting” that Sablan did not inform them of the status of the account. “If there were truly zero dollars in that account,” he said, “why didn’t he have the common courtesy as a chairman to explain that to us, so he can say that there is no money, so we can question Finance as to why there was \$800,000 and then now there is zero dollars. We would like to know where that money went for the deportation fund. “The point of the matter we were trying to make today was not just Ralph’s bill or my bill. It is the fact that the minority bills are so often sitting, collecting dust and not moving, while they are doing first and final read-

ing for their own bills. How is that fair? These guys have taken \$300,000 for their leadership funds—I don’t care what they say about it but that’s fact—and the minority gets zero dollars. We are not asking for the money but why aren’t they sharing at the very least? Or why not give that back and refuse that 67 percent increase. We just got slammed by a typhoon and they’re getting 67-percent increases. [House] Speaker Joe Guerrero has said that’s because the Senate made that amendment and we have to stick to it. The speaker is under no obligation to take that money. He and the leadership have the right to change that and reduce it to what they were getting last year. That’s an insult to everybody not getting a pay raise.” According to Yumul, his bills tap into Public Law 10-1, which sets up the alien deportation fund. Yumul bills move funds to help agencies like the Department of Public Safety, for example. “All have been verified,” Yumul said. “I verified with Finance, unless Finance is ly-

ing to me and not giving me the correct figure. Even with my research with the auditor’s report, there is funding every year after those funds.” “Finance has to basically come to this chamber and explain to us what they have been doing with the money. We are not putting the chairman on the spot, but like what my colleague said, if there’s money then let [Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson] explain,” Yumul said. “It’s basically a slush account. I am not making it up. There are balances ever year. I am not blowing air.” Subpoena “She is very non-responsive to telephone calls, even to email,” Rep. Joseph “Leepan” Guerrero said of Larson. “We are the lawmakers appropriating funding, and she is not even supportive to even provide us fund status. She’s kind of useless to me, because I can’t work, because she is holding us hostage by not providing us information.” “...For her to deny us the privilege to receive funding status is uncalled for. I’ve been

sending her emails after emails, she doesn’t respond. I call her up, she doesn’t respond,” Guerrero said. “I hope the chairman of Ways and Means will invite... If she doesn’t show up, then we subpoena her,” he added. In a statement near press time yesterday, Larson said: “I want to provide clarification on this issue which has caused an understandable level of concern in the CNMI Legislature and with members of our community. This issue has been discussed with the legislators extensively, and I had believed the matter was resolved several months ago. Any and all use of these funds happened prior to my term as secretary of Finance, but as it remains a pressing issue for certain members of the Legislature, I will take the necessary steps to derive the specific details of these expenditures for future concerns. “On a larger issue, I completely understand that it is important to have the right information and data to inform our elected representatives, but it does a disservice to the very

people who elected them to have this be a distraction from the pressing matters of the present. The reality is that our Legislature needs to actively pursue innovative ideas and policies that will increase the total size of our financial resources and not just pull from outdated funds or treasure hunt in far corners of the general fund balance sheets for resources to fund essential services of the government. It is not my place to wade into the politics of the CNMI Legislature, but for the good of our people, these interpersonal issues in the Legislature should be solved where they start—between the legislators. I have been called and testified many times in front of the Legislature, and I will continue to do so in the future. I am available to respond to formal requests if and when they are made. We are at a critical stage in our goal of economic recovery in the CNMI. It is critical that we continue to work together toward our common goals of finding new sources of revenue to enhance the existing revenue and serve the people of our Commonwealth.”

Man arrested in theft of FEMA genset's battery

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**

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REPORTER

A battery from a Federal Emergency Management Agency generator that was powering the Commonwealth Utilities

PAWS disbands after 2 decades

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

After 22 years of service, the Pet Assistance and Welfare Services of the CNMI is disbanding, blaming it on a general lack of interest from the public.

PAWS is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the health, care, welfare, and population control of cats and dogs in the CNMI and to the education of the public on animal care and rights. It was established in March 1993.

"It's a pretty much lack of interest from the community in PAWS. Bobbi [Grizzard] and I have struggled for years to run it ourselves but none of us have the time to make that type of organization work. While we still very much believe in our cause, we can't keep supporting it with just the two of us," said PAWS president Sarah Fryling.

"At first we had lots of people who were willing to volunteer, willing to donate," said Grizzard, who is both the group's secretary and treasurer. "Since then we have lost a lot of people who have moved off island, others who now have other interests."

Fryling says she understand why people are not stepping forward. "Helping out animals is a very emotionally draining thing to do especially [on] Saipan where there's so little care. I very much understand and I feel like if we have a couple more people to contrib-

Corp.'s water pump station in Chalan Kanoa was stolen and 18-year-old Patrick Nick H. Muña was tagged as the suspect behind the crime.

Muña, who was being hunted by police since last week for

ute some energy, we probably could've kept going."

In its over two decades of existence, PAWS has supported and pushed legislation to increase animal awareness education and protection in the CNMI. They've also spent a lot of time in organizing adoptions and working with a veterinarian to improve animal care. PAWS used to have a veterinarian check the animals first before they can be put up for adoption.

"We can't afford it anymore. It costs too much money. It's not the vet's fault, he has managed to not charge us for money for a long time and it's not fair to him because he is in business too," Grizzard said.

"PAWS just can't afford to subsidize the care of animals anymore," she added.

The two are just glad there are other organizations such as the Saipan Mayor's Office and the Saipan Cares for Animals that are now helping the animals on island. They said they fully support these groups and wish them well in their projects.

Even though PAWS will no longer exist, Fryling says she hopes for an increase in animal welfare awareness.

"I would love people to increase their awareness of animal welfare from their participation in adoption clinics and making sure that the animals are spayed and neutered. I think that is one of the most important things that Saipan needs to focus on," Fryling said.

Ex-CBP officer positive for 'ice' use

A former U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer who's been convicted of wire fraud and is just waiting to be sentenced has been twice found positive for using methamphetamine or "ice."

In a report submitted to the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday, U.S. Probation Office specialist Margarita DLG. Wonenberg said that Bob Hajime Deleon Guerrero Yamagishi tested presumptive positive for "ice" use during a urinalysis testing last Aug. 11 and Sept. 17.

When confronted with the test results, Yamagishi admitted to smoking the drug on Aug. 6 and Sept. 14, Wonenberg said.

She disclosed Yamagishi's "ice" use in her petition to revoke his bail for violating pre-trial release conditions.

Yamagishi also failed to attend group counseling at the Marianas Counseling Services.

Wonenberg said that last Aug. 24 and Sept. 3, Yamagishi submitted to an unobserved random urinalysis but the specimen

he gave was a diluted sample, showing signs of water flushing to evade a positive drug test. At a urinalysis test last Sept. 7, Yamagishi was found again to have submitted a diluted specimen.

Wonenberg said when confronted about being positive for "ice" during an observed urinalysis test last Sept. 17, Yamagishi admitted to smoking "ice" on Sept. 14.

Yamagishi pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud by wire after making illegal cash advance transactions on a travel charge card between July 4 and Aug. 7, 2014.

As then-CBP officer, Yamagishi applied for and received a travel charge card from J. P. Morgan Chase. J.P. Morgan Chase prohibits the use of the travel charge for non-travel purposes.

According to the indictment, Yamagishi made illegal cash advance transactions 28 times in July 2014 and nine times in August 2014, for a total amount of \$6,227.53. (Ferdie de la Torre)

theft, surrendered to the Department of Public Safety on Monday morning.

At his initial appearance in court yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio increased Muña's bail from \$1,250 to \$5,000 cash, citing Muna's prior criminal history as a juvenile as well as the fact that Saipan is still suffering in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor, which caused massive destruction to the island.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas said that that FEMA generator was generating water for Chalan Kanoa and its environs.

Preliminary hearing will be

on Oct. 8 at 9am. Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Muna.

Police said an officer was dispatched last Sept. 10 at 2:08pm to a reported theft of a FEMA generator's battery at the CUC water pump station along Tun Sedugo Street near the U.S. Post Office.

FEMA generator operator Michael Kallberg told police that the stolen item was a red and black Optima battery, about the same size as a car battery.

As Commonwealth Bureau of Investigation commander Jeffrey Olopai and other detectives were interviewing people in the neighborhood, an anonymous tipster advised police de-

tective Catherine B. Pangelinan to check on Muña.

Pangelinan alerted the rest of CBI detectives to be on the lookout for Muña, who lives just three houses away from the generator's location.

As the detectives were leaving, Pangelinan spotted Muña walking north, about 100 feet from the crime scene. Pangelinan parked her vehicle next to Muña and asked if she could interview him about the FEMA generator.

Muña immediately took off. Olopai gave chase while Pangelinan alerted other officers and detectives. Police detective Daniel Joab later found Muña hiding under a clump of vines at 2:45pm.

Pangelinan said that Muña

immediately said he wants to cooperate with police and admitted stealing the battery at 12am last Sept. 10.

Follow-up investigation led to the recovery of the battery on Sept. 11. Kallberg positively identified the battery as the one placed on the generator in Chalan Kanoa. The battery was subsequently returned to FEMA.

Because of the incident, FEMA removed the generator from Chalan Kanoa.

With his arrest, Muña joins in jail his older brother, Roland Hernandez Muña, a 26-year-old notorious burglar who was slapped with a 20-year prison sentence last month for burglarizing eight vehicles in San Vicente and violating his probation.



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JAYSON CAMACHO
Nickelodeon's Spongebob Squarepants visits the children's clinic at the Commonwealth Health Center yesterday morning under the auspices of Docomo Pacific, which is hosting a Kids4Kids Carnival on the island. At left is DPH director Margaret Aldan calling the children.



Spongebob brings cheers to kids at pediatrics ward, clinic

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nickelodeon characters came to life at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. yesterday morning, with Spongebob Squarepants visiting young patients at the CNMI's lone public hospital.

The popular "Bikini Bottom dweller" brought much needed cheer and small gifts to the pediatric ward and the Children's Clinic at the Commonwealth Health Center, including other areas of the hospital.

Children were happy to see Spongebob. Two youngsters, Debron Saures and Ian S. Padilla, who were both with their mothers, said the visit was a fun experience but they also looked for Patrick, one of the costars of the Spongebob Squarepants series.

Ian's mother, Kim Sablan, said it was a great idea for Docomo to bring Nickelodeon characters to the hospital. She noted that her son watches Spongebob a lot.

Selfie sticks were given to some of the children who interacted with Spongebob.

Thomas Takeo Higa, chief commercial officer for Docomo Pacific, said the Nickelodeon character is on island for the Kids4Kids Carnival, a family-friendly event being hosted by

Docomo.

The carnival kicked off on Sept. 28 and ended yesterday at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort, with performances by other Nickelodeon characters.

"We try to bring Nickelodeon out here every few years and we work with the company in the U.S. who's authorized with Nickelodeon, because there is only one company. We do this under the Kids4Kids program," Higa said.

"It has helped bring smiles for children both on Guam and Saipan. For Saipan, which is still suffering from the terrible devastation of the typhoon, we decided to sell the tickets at half price. We're trying to do four shows so the kids get in time for bed," he said.

Tickets on Saipan were sold for \$3.50.

Higa noted that aside from Spongebob, Team Umi Zumi and Diego the Explorer are also part of the Kids4Kids Carnival.

CHCC's Division of Public Health director Margaret Aldan said that Docomo does this almost every year, including during Christmas.

"They are very active with spreading the spirit of goodwill. Some of the kids are here for awhile and this lifts up their spirits and makes them happy," Aldan said.

3 men arrested for alleged domestic violence incidents

Police arrested over the weekend three men who were allegedly involved in separate domestic violence incidents on Saipan.

Anthony Mendiola Palacios, 31; Zhao Yi Duan, 28, aka Yiyi; and Thomas Dela Cruz Joab Jr., 28, were served with arrest warrants and taken to Superior Court on Monday for their initial court appearance.

Palacios was apprehended for assault and battery and disturbing the peace.

Duan was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, criminal mischief, disturbing the peace, obstructing justice, and bribery.

Joab was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho retained the \$5,000 cash bail for Palacios, \$10,000 cash bail for Duan, and \$6,250 for Joab.

Assistant public defender Cindy Nebit was appointed as counsel for all three suspects.

Police said a woman called the Department of Public Safety last Sept. 20 at 3:52pm to report a domestic violence incident near the D-Torres building in central Garapan. A responding police officer met with the woman, who alleged that her boyfriend, Palacios, assaulted her. She showed a bruise on her right shoulder and a bump on

her head. She claimed that Palacios elbowed her on the nose and choked her with his right arm around her neck.

Three months ago, Palacios also allegedly choked her. Her landlord saw her crawling out of their apartment and called the police.

In Duan's case, a woman called DPS last Sept. 5 at 10:13pm and reported that her husband, Duan, threw beer bottles at her. When two police officers arrived at the Chinese Restaurant, they saw a man, later identified as Duan, running to the back of Country Steak House in Garapan. The officers gave chase and arrested Duan, who then allegedly offered one officer \$1,000 cash to let him go. The victim suffered a scratch on the right leg.

A few weeks ago, Duan also allegedly beat up the victim during an argument, broke her cell phone, and ripped her passport. He drove her to a small road north of Banzai Cliff in Marpi, where he threatened to kill her.

In Joab's case, a woman called DPS on Sept. 25 at 3:25am, saying her husband, Joab, hit her with a wooden chair at their home in Kagman. A police officer saw a bump and a scratch below the victim's left elbow and bruising on the left rib area. There was a broken wooden chair on the ground and clothes scattered on the floor. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

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Wiseman: Now is the best time to have a drug court

As problems with methamphetamine or "ice" continue to plague the CNMI, now is the best time to establish a drug court in the Commonwealth, according to Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Speaking before the Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday, Wiseman explained how a drug court works to help society.

"The proposed Commonwealth drug court being pur-

sued by the three branches of government will be a specialized, problem solving court that incorporates drug dependency treatment with intensive court supervision for qualifying defendants," he said.

Over 3,000 drug courts are now established in the U.S. and all 50 states have at least one.

According to Wiseman, drug courts are a drastic departure from traditional criminal justice. In such a court, the approach is non-adversarial as it focuses on long-term rehabilitation rather

than immediate punitive or retributive punishment.

"The concept of a drug court is based on the philosophy of reward and punishment and rewards are reserved for those who accomplish the goals that the drug court evaluators have established," Wiseman said.

He said he is optimistic that the Senate will pass their bill this week with regards to establishing drug court after the House passed theirs weeks ago.

"Once a drug court bill establishes, we'll have a team put together," Wiseman said. **(Frau-leine S. Villanueva)**

DLNR

From Page 4

pacts of live-fire at these greater levels would be massive, the difference is ignored. In addition, the impacts of the pre- and post-training activities were not presented.

The DEIS states that analyses of impacts on humans was not completed for Pagan because the island is uninhabited. However, such impacts must be considered since Pagan is inhabited for most of the year and has a government-recognized resident population awaiting resettlement.

Left out of the DEIS altogether are the major impacts of relocating the International Broadcasting Bureau; construction activities in the Tinian and Pagan harbors; and unexploded ordnance and exploded munitions contaminants removal at the end of the lease period that will involve the complete removal of vegetation and soil from 935 acres of Range Complex A plus significant portions of Range Complexes B, C and D on Tinian, and 8,114 acres in the High Hazard Impact Area and the Live Fire Maneuver Area on Pagan.

Many DEIS impact assessments were found to be based on inaccurate, flawed or incom-

plete scientific data. Such data tended to support findings of "no significant impact."

Lack of crucial mitigation details

DLNR noted that the DEIS repeatedly states that mitigation, minimization or avoidance measures "may" be created and implemented, and that these are not actual measures but are intentions to develop a plan. Yet throughout the DEIS there are numerous findings of "no significant impact" to plant and animal species based on these non-existent measures and plans. The DEIS cannot assert the results of implementation of plans that don't yet exist and may not ever happen in its findings of "no significant impact." It is not possible to assess the impacts of activities without knowing the details of mitigation, minimization or avoidance measures, nor can the impacts of the measures themselves be known and assessed.

Failure to consult with local agencies

The DOD failed to consult with CNMI natural resource management agencies regarding local terrestrial and marine resource issues. Not even DLNR, who conduct the vast majority of flora, wildlife and fisheries study and monitoring in the

CNMI, were consulted, resulting in significant gaps in the DEIS.

DLNR resource managers and scientists noted that the DEIS applies a mainland approach and a lack of understanding of island systems in which space, habitats and numbers of wildlife are naturally limited, and where removal of habitat results in permanent losses to wildlife populations. Even small losses of habitat quickly pose critical problems for species that are already experiencing decline. As a result of this failure to recognize the

unique biological circumstances of islands, the impacts of disturbance on wildlife are consistently underestimated in the DEIS.

Grave concerns

DLNR characterized the military's intention to hold nearly one quarter of the CNMI land base under lease as excessive and unreasonable, and the restrictions on the people's access to their own natural resources unacceptable. The loss of management control of so much of the CNMI's natural resources would severely compromise the ability of the CNMI Department

of Lands and Natural Resources (including the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife, Agriculture, and Forestry) to fulfil its mandate of managing natural resources for the benefit of the people of the CNMI.

It was also noted that the DEIS includes activities that are in violation of the Tinian Lease Agreement that does not allow the irreversible and irretrievable damage that destructive live-fire activities will do to the island's natural resources.

Full DLNR CJMT Draft EIS/OEIS comments

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources' full comments on the CJMT Draft EIS/OEIS are available on the Division of Fish and Wildlife website: <http://www.cnmidfw.com//DLNR-CJMT-DEIS-Comments.php>

Public comments on the Department of Defense's CJMT Draft EIS will be accepted until Oct. 2 (CNMI date) at the following URL: <http://www.cnmieis.org/submit-comments.html>. Comments may also be emailed to: info@CNMIEIS.org **(DLNR)**

CPA

From Page 4

mission a salvor—one who salvages or assists in salvaging a ship or its cargo—"to chop up this vessel and remove it and somehow try and see to recover the cost of it," Torres said.

If Saipan USA Fisheries or its three secured creditors don't respond or don't do anything about the vessels, a complaint may be filed for admiralty, he added.

Miss Saipan needs to be removed prior to the Delta dock repairs, because it is aground and cannot be moved or lifted up.

"If they don't do that, then we have to undertake that to remove it. Hopefully the U.S. Coast Guard will look under the 'Wreck Removal Act' and it is a month after the storm and we haven't seen any parties removing this vessel. We have to coordinate with DLNR and the AG's office to bring suit if everything else fails," Torres said.

CPA hopes they don't have to do that because it'll be a cost that CPA has to bear and that will be additional costs that will have to be borne by the wharfage fees and burden the community because CPA would have to maintain their debt service ratio.

Using Wreckage

Removal Act

Saipan Tribune learned that the removal of the two vessels is not under CPA's jurisdiction but under DLNR, as the Coast Guard has ordered the owners to clean out the vessels of all oil and possible pollutants. The owners have done so.

According to CPA, the local detachment for USCG said that once they were done with that, they have nothing further to do.

CPA didn't quite agree with that and wrote to USCG that they do have jurisdiction under the "Wreck Removal Act." The agency urged the Coast Guard to exercise its authority, saying they would run it up the chain of command of USCG. CPA has yet to hear from them.

When a vessel is grounded or sunk in navigable waters of the U.S., the law places certain strict duties on its owner. Both the USCG and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are empowered to enforce these duties and find their authority in the Wreck Removal Act.

Section 409 also requires the owner to take immediate action to remove the wreck. If the owner does not undertake removal, the wreck may be considered abandoned. In that scenario, the U.S. government may undertake removal of the wreck and then seek reimbursement of its costs from the responsible owner.

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House backs formation of a National Guard unit in NMI

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives strongly supports the establishment of a National Guard unit in the CNMI, one of the last two U.S. territories without a unit. The other is American Samoa.

In a House resolution that passed unanimously on Monday, lawmakers formalized their support for a National Guard unit that would have the "multiple of capabilities necessary to meet the array of traditional, irregular, catastrophic, and disruptive threats to America" and the CNMI.

The resolution comes about two months after Typhoon Soudelor wrecked Saipan's power and capacity and almost a month after the National Guard Bureau released its report on the feasibility of establishing guard units in American Samoa and the CNMI.

The August report found that the CNMI has the necessary

laws required to establish an organized militia, and that the CNMI has 110 U.S. Army Reserve officers that analysis indicates "can support an additional 1-2 sized company elements."

"It was very timely for us because we had a national disaster," Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said, referring to the NGB report that was released a few weeks after Soudelor hit on Aug. 2 to 3.

"[The National Guard responds] to non-military duties that involve disaster response recovery, search and rescue, and that's the element we didn't have available. That's a resource we didn't have available when Soudelor hit. And so now that feasibility study is done, I introduced this resolution to urge the United States government to consider the creation of a National Guard unit in the Commonwealth," Demapan said.

Cable cut at Twin's Market now repaired

On Monday, Sept. 28, 2015, at around 11am, a contractor performing work for Twin's Market in Navy Hill cut the IT&E underground cable. This affected landline and DSL services in the nearby and surrounding areas, particularly behind Twin's Market, in Lower Navy Hill.

IT&E crews working at the site were able to complete the

repair work and restore all affected services that same day at about 8:40pm.

Again, IT&E would like to remind all companies, government agencies, and residential customers to kindly request for a cable location 24 hours prior to any excavation work by calling 611. IT&E can assist by sending a team to identify the cable location. **(IT&E)**



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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd floor – Oleai Joeten Commercial Center
Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DPW/FHWA-15-RFP-005

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR ROUTE 36 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, SAIPAN, CNMI PROJECT NO. CM-NH-36(004)

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified Architectural/Engineering companies for the **Construction Management Services for Route 36 Road Improvements Project, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)**.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **\$70-30.3-305** of the Procurement Regulations. This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dates May 24, 2001.

Any corporation or partnership "firm" must have or obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing (CNMI BOPL). Individuals and/or sole proprietors are required to possess a valid professional license issued by the CNMI BOPL.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) package will be available on or after **September 30, 2015** at the Department of Public Works, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 214 Saipan.

A **mandatory** Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 212 on **October 16, 2015**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division, at telephone numbers (670) 234-9828/9837 or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **October 23, 2015**.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"DPW/FHWA-15-RFP-005"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and six (6) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **November 10, 2015**. Proposals located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a **Notice of Intent to Propose**. Notices of Intent to submit proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **November 10, 2015** and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com or fax to (670) 234-3547 or via e-mail to jripplle.dpw@gmail.com For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and six (6) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 10, 2015** and must be received no later than **November 20, 2015**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be caused for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and evaluation criteria and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform services required. A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Engineering firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon. The anticipated date for this of award is December 2015 and anticipated date for notice to proceed is February 2016. Please refer the Proposal Content Requirements section of this package for more information; non-complaint proposals will not be considered.

The successful A-E firm will be subjected to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**.

The Government is not responsible for any expenses which Proposers may incur in the preparation and submittal of proposals requested by this RFP, including by not limited to, costs associated with travel, accommodations, interviews or presentations, or proposals.

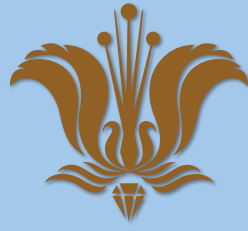
This project is funded in whole by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the FHWA. All offerors shall be subjected to the provisions of the federal Acquisition Regulations Part 52, Subpart 209-5, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matter, March 1996.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including exercise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

**BEST SUNSHINE LIVE**

太平洋娛樂

“weRcnmi”

An Open Photography Competition

We, as a community, have an incredible spirit and the tenacity to move past difficulties and embrace the future.

It has been nearly two months after typhoon Soudelor left unimaginable destruction to our island paradise, but what continues to stand out is our unshakeable resolve to survive and our capacity to recover quickly from disasters. This characterizes our resiliency and collective spirit as one community.

Best Sunshine International is launching “weRcnmi”—an open photography competition, from the week of September 30 through October 7, 2015. Help us at Best Sunshine International to highlight our stories of resiliency, of survival and of heroic deeds, by joining this open competition.

Through your photo entries /submissions we are preserving our collective spirit that captures the stories of survival, of recovery and of those who selflessly helped others, even if they themselves were victims of typhoon Soudelor.

We invite everyone to join this competition and take a shot at the prize awaiting selected winning photos:

1st Prize: \$2,000
2nd Prize: \$1,000
3rd Prize: \$500

10 Consolation Prizes of \$100 each will be awarded.

Criteria:

- Clear photo(s) for a maximum of two (2) entries. Taken from either digital camera or phone
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- Bite-size caption to describe entry
- Name/contact information
- Must not contain any graphic or offensive images

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The closing date is **October 7, 2015 at 5 pm**



Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Needed: A new Syria strategy

At the opening of the U.N. General Assembly session Monday, President Barack Obama delivered a forceful rebuttal to the idea that the U.S. should accept Syrian President Bashar Assad as a partner in the fight against the self-proclaimed Islamic State. "In accordance with this logic," he told the world leaders gathered in New York, "we should support tyrants like Bashar al-Assad who drops barrel bombs to massacre innocent civilians because the alternative is surely worse."

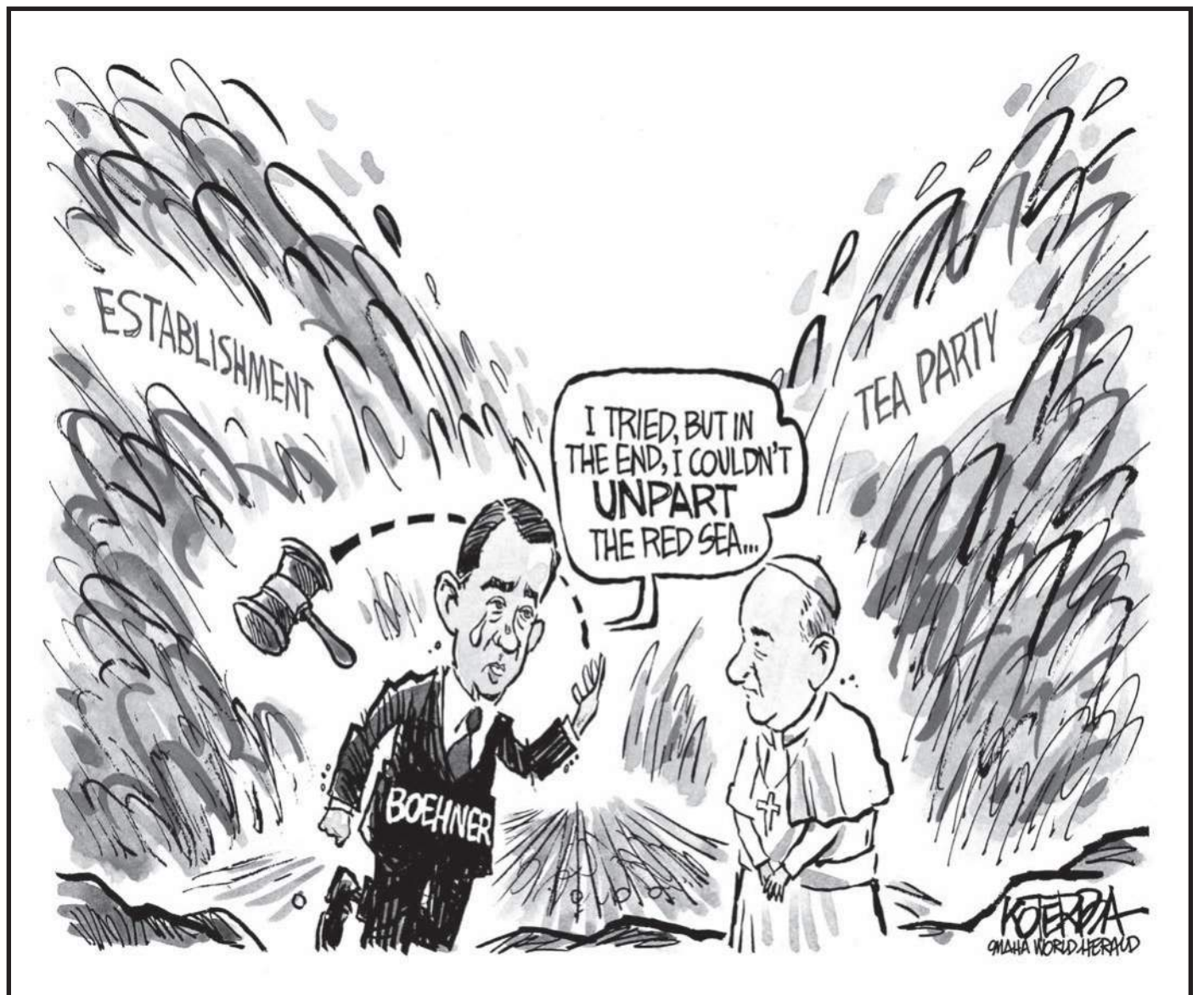
Russian President Vladimir Putin, speaking an hour after Obama, offered his own answer to that question, which essentially boiled down to: "Trust me." Putin offered a ringing endorsement of Assad as an island of stability in a troubled region and insisted Russian help was needed to fight the Islamic State extremists threatening the region.

Propping up bloody dictators because they appear to be the lesser of two evils has never been a winning strategy for the U.S.—see Vietnam, Iran and Iraq's Saddam Hussein, whom the U.S. supported in his eight-year war with Tehran during the 1980s—and it's equally unlikely to work in Syria. Assad's crimes against humanity are egregious and well-documented. Despite the savagery of Islamic State, most of the quarter million Syrians who have died in the country's four-year civil war were killed by their own government with arms supplied by Russia and Iran. Another 4 million have been driven into exile, forcing the countries of the European Union to cope with hundreds of thousands of refugees seeking asylum. It's inconceivable that those migrants can be persuaded to return to Syria as long as Assad remains in power.

That is why Obama was also right to pointedly criticize Assad's main backers, Russia and Iran, for prolonging the conflict in Syria by providing military aid and diplomatic cover to the regime. He reminded his audience how the conflict began as peaceful protests that the Assad government responded to with arrests, beatings, torture and finally wholesale massacres of civilians using poison gas and barrel bombs. Syria's descent into chaos, the president said, showed that "dangerous currents risk pulling us back into a darker, more disordered world" and the lawlessness exemplified by Russia's takeover of Crimea and its support for rebel militias in Ukraine.

After yesterday's speeches, it's clear the U.S. is going to have to re-evaluate its strategy in Syria and that Russia and Iran are unlikely to cooperate in any plan that might threaten Assad's hold on power no matter what happens in the war against Islamic State. Putin may even see an advantage to deliberately prolonging that war if the exodus of refugees continues to create divisions among the EU countries that weaken the NATO military alliance. Obama is right to be wary of entangling the U.S. in another protracted Mideast conflict. But neither can the U.S. afford to allow Russia, Iran and their proxies to dominate events in the region. If the president is serious about ensuring Assad's departure from the scene, it's going to take more than speeches at the U.N. to make that happen.

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Chuseok

The mid-autumn festival during the autumnal equinox—celebrated in China as the mooncake festival and Native American Day in the U.S.—is a culinary delight in Korea when *Chuseok* is observed, a harvest feast festival merged with ancestry remembrances. It is also the celebration of "the great middle," *hangawi*, indicative of Sinosphere's yin-yang preference for balance at the center, as reflected in the Hangul's flag.

Bulgogi, a favored dish associated with beef, steak to Western familiarity, is more than the grilled preparation to Hanguk, for it now includes chicken (*dak*) and pork (*dwaegi*). *Bulgogi* (China's *kaorou*) and *kimchi* (Dong Bei's *labachai*) were two of my favorite viands when I first stayed longer than a day in Suwon south of Seoul.

What is now a bedroom community, suburb to the capital city, Suwon was farmland for fruit orchards and vegetables in August '72, the peach blossom's aroma wafting over the land along with the scent of cabbage fermentation. History now reveals that the U.S. military and Ferdinand Marcos' henchmen were in Walker Hill plotting the details of a martial law that was declared on Sept. 21 a month later. McCoy toed U.S. policy that at the time, which favored the leadership of indigenous dictators. (Don't get me wrong. As an Ilocano, I attest to Manong Ferdie's dictatorship!)

But history is not our preoccupation in this reflection. It is the taste for *bulgogi*, *kalbi* (spare ribs), and *kimchi* that forever stayed with me. When Hyatt announced the addition of a Korean station in their Tour of Asia Sunday dinner buffet, I counted my pennies to see if I could squeeze my way to the *sindouju* and *dongdongju* (rice wines). Austerity has been the tenor of our post-Soudelor finances, so we reluctantly passed up the occasion and drooled from a distance.

The state of my finances is not at issue either. Getting to the *jesa-sang* (ancestral) table on the *charye* (tea rites) would have satisfied my Rock-of-Peter curiosity on Buddhist and Confucian traditions, but it was still the taste buds that wanted to be sated.

Saipan should be familiar with the *bulgogi* and *kalbi* by now. After all, the traditions of old Goguryeo is not foreign to the Marianas as many of the Japanese workers of the sugar field and the soldiers that came to the defense of Saipan during WWII were of Hanguk descent. Now, one can't go to a mom-and-pop store without running into a proprietor, or a DFS store and hotel staff, without hearing *yobo sae yo* and *khamisa hamnida*.

Kim chee (as spelled in Hawaii) has gone international, though Asiana of the Kumho group (Star Alliance) and Korean Air (SkyTeam, aka Korea Air Lines) do not include it in their in-flight of-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



ferings. I remember going to a Seoul McDonald's in '72 and was offered the Big Mac with *kim chi*. That is pandering to the indigenous taste buds. But I got used to the taste and the smell. Ms. Kang initiated me to the flavor and I was not one to complain. I relished the breath's under-the-sheet aroma in olden times!

But the culinary aspect of Chuseok is our concern, though differences in architecture of Sinosphere might be of interest when looking at the shape of pagoda roofs. Nihonggo build eaves straight down with barely a curve, while Hanguk does theirs straight up on a definite curve. *Zhongguo* does its slant right on the median, which is no surprise since the indigenous name for "China" (Persia's land of the Qin) is governance from the middle, *Zhong Guo*!

On the spice side, Japan tends to let cuisine go on its own, allowing the natural ingredient to exude its own flavor with not much assistance from seasonings, while the Korean would be exuberant in their use of pepper, onions and garlic, among other garnishes. The Chinese tend to take the middle way, right down the Han's alley of the old Chang-an, now Xi'an of Shaanxi, unless one finds himself in the foothills of Sichuan or the Silk Road caravan through Taklimakan (the desert where folks "go in and don't come out") heading for Central Asia of the Kazakhs and other -stans!

We keep heading back to geography when we should be savoring the flavor, indulging the palate. Which is what the *Chuseok* at Hyatt is all about. In an earlier time, I wore my *Cheong-san* and my lady her *Qi pao*, to savor another Sinosphere flavorful offering, but those days are gone. Besides, I'd look ridiculous at Kili Cafe wearing a *Dopo* (with the wide-brim hat) while I escort a lady on her *majoba* (long jacket) over her *Hanbok* on top of the *jeogori* (short jacket). Besides, my Hangul neighbor won't wear one unless her husband tags along. What is a single guy to do?

So back to *bulgogi*, *kalbi*, and *kim chi*. Watching calories, skip the *bulgogi*; on the grill, *kalbi* is Saipan-familiar, consume with caution, but the *kim chi*, well, it is a garnish, and one treads gingerly through the culinary track, for like Malay *durian*, it smells like hell but tastes like heaven. Let olfactory and tactile be gustatory. Enjoy.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Reading comprehension problematic!

It is said that complexity in the law is a bug for citizens but a feature of pride for the bureaucrat and lawmaker. It grants them breathing room for exponential demagoguery completely emasculated of inference. A bit brutal in expression but how long must we endure wobbly politics?

Let's keep it simple: If you're teaching me how to add one plus one, the derivative would be two, right? Why would you inject speculative answers? Your focus must stay the course doing what's right, not what's politically cool wrapped in greed that derails constructive work on economic growth, prosperity, and hope. Why demagoguery?

Take the gridlocked fiscal year 2016 budget. The Legislature says it could dispose of constitutionally earmarked funds while the administration says it would be a violation of law.

The supremacy of laws says constitutional law reigns supreme over federal, state, and county laws. It's a basic tenet taught in high school civics courses. If the guys missed it, it doesn't grant them the right to spread its fuzzy logic with the masses. We have enough fodder for comedy among students of government in our high schools. How embarrassing, huh?

Inos could abide by his oath of office, upholding the laws of the land by vetoing the measure. He throws the pressure back at the boys to do the right thing by doing it right—start by staying constitutional—demonstrating that it's the other side that has issues with humiliating reading deficiency!

We're now inebriated with the usual cocktail of misperception, misrepresentation, and disorientation on policymaking! What could we do to aid the continuously diminished legislative chambers yearning for some semblance of intellectual decency? The focus is on power and greed so far removed from doing the right things right.

Notice how the pie was divided? Rota and Tinian walked away with more than what they left behind in crumbs for Saipan. Whatever happened to our 18 House members and three senators? Were you guys snoozing as to miss the colossal greed that passed below your nose? With such grand failure, do you really think you deserve

re-election next year?

Beyond the confused intramural debate, I honestly quiz if these guys are really up to the task of formulating policies addressing education, health, labor development, the economy specifically investment: push for homogeneity or heterogeneity?

If today is the future where economic depression or dystopia has taken over the entire landscape, what's our future over the long term? What's the future of our children beyond working as dealers in a casino joint? When do we define the educational goals of the CNMI beyond someone else's prism of turning our kids into lifetime card dealers?

Paradigm: Because of the anticipated drop in revenue resulting from two disasters, the administration has taken the responsible posture to seek postponement of another \$.50 increase in federally mandated minimum wage to spare employees their jobs. It is the more responsible paradigm given the impending drop in revenue generation. The NMI can't afford \$.50 cents in federal imposition yet it's okay if the raise came from here? Isn't it still about economics or job losses for folks in private industries? We can't afford it so why force the issue? How about some semblance of inference as you review public policies? At least, students in civics courses need not turn you guys into their daily laughingstock, *di ba?*

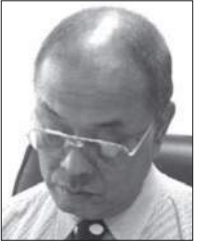
We can't afford overlooking the hidden effects of salary and wage increases that simply kills jobs in smaller businesses eliminating folks from their only source of family income. How could you have missed this? If I may say so, it's time most of you learn looking at the forest over the trees. I'd be very happy to explain this in simple concept for your less than nimble mind.

In other words, policy must embrace and support the larger number of folks throughout the archipelago with a sense of nationalism and compassion to help the senatorial district the needs it the most, today! But then even this simple issue is missed by ocean apart.

Creativity: It takes more than salutary greetings to begin doing the right things for the NMI by doing them right. At the risk of being redundant I have to repeat my assertion of "doing the right things..."

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

by doing them right". Does it mean anything at all?

Well, for those who do daily, weekly or monthly planning maybe the spout makes sense. At least you know you have a certain goal to achieve by a certain date. Others bluff it with ad hoc method—doing things by what happened—rather than by eventualities. Teachers are into daily lesson planning. They should be hired after class to teach other government employees how to plan for certain events beyond collecting unearned loot! It makes sense, huh?

Partnership: Many moons ago investors enthusiastically encourage locals to put up their own firms that compliment their very own. A number of very positive things happened as this took shape in a well-founded business relationship.

Locally established businesses provide services to the new larger venture. Both hire employees, pay taxes individually and separately meaning more money for the local treasury and a lot more folks working for private industries. It's a healthy business relationship all the way around. Its very essence is founded on, yes, "partnership" of sort. It created wealth and jobs!

Then one day the fatal parasite of complacency and self-destruction moved in and devoured what was an excellent entrepreneurial partnership. It steadily took a nosedive! Locals lost interest prompted including the larger investor. Both put on shutters and disappeared! What triggered the mess that resulted in the exodus of over \$5-7 billion in exogenous funds? Weren't we negligent on this score and what have we done for purposes of reconciliation?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Road remains uncleared

According to DPW Secretary in last Friday's *Variety*, almost all debris from secondary and major roads is gone. I beg to differ with that statement.

I live on Navy Hill Rd., a major road, and the worst in the Commonwealth. The day after the typhoon the residents of this road worked until 3pm to clear the unpaved portion. No one from the CNMI government did anything to clear it, except for one Tuesday afternoon two weeks ago when a front loader supervised by the mayor's staff cleared debris from a small section.

Today, the road is still pretty much as it was when the residents cleared it on Aug. 3. In fact, one place still has a tree hanging over the road just waiting to fall. (See picture 1)

Additionally, the road itself is almost impassable, with ruts over a foot deep (See picture 2). The road is badly in need of grading and I call on Mr. Ada to provide assistance. The people living along Navy Hill Rd. in Chalan Galaide deserve the same support as other taxpayers.

Ed Klingbergs

Navy Hill Rd.
Chalan Galaide, Saipan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The road itself is almost impassable, with ruts over a foot deep.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A portion of the Navy Hill Rd. still has a tree hanging over it, just waiting to fall.

Tell the military no to bombing

While it is understood that people are preoccupied with recovering from the typhoon, it is very important to know that the military is marching forward in its plans to bomb Pagan and conduct live-firing on Tinian. If you want to preserve the beauty of where you live, you need to make your voice heard before the deadline, which is Oct. 1. The military's plan, which they have admitted to, includes

destroying more than 180 historic and cultural sites on the island of Tinian alone (including numerous *latte* sites), destroying a wildlife conservation area set aside for the Tinian monarch, a rare bird species found nowhere else in the world. They plan to bomb the island of Pagan for "practice." Many scientific studies were done to see what insects, plants, birds, mammals, lizards, etc. exist on these islands because they are required to show what would be affected by their blowing up the land for their training exercises. This information is online and you can read it at: <http://www.cnmijointmilitary-trainingis.com/documents>.

Some of the plants and animals are listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered either by the federal government or the CNMI government. Others are culturally important and unique to the Mariana islands, and still others are of particular concern. Some of these include the hawksbill turtle, green turtle, Mariana common moorhen, Mariana Islands tree snail, Micronesian gecko, Mariana skink, Micronesian megapode, Tinian monarch, Mariana fruit bat, two different corals: *Acropora globiceps* and *Pavona diffluens*, fish include the humphead and Napoleon wrasse, mammals include the bottlenosed dolphin, spinner dolphin, sperm whale, sei whales, humpback whales, Minke whale, melon-headed whales, pantropical spotted dolphin, Blainvilles beaked whale, Cuviers beaked whale, scalloped hammerhead shark and the grey reef shark.

While doing these studies to see what would be affected by the bombing and live-fire, the scientists found creatures, insects and other living things they did not even know existed on these islands. For instance, no millipedes had previously been recorded on Pagan. Two species previously unknown were found for the first time. It is not known for sure all that actually exist on Tinian and Pagan as well as in the waters surrounding. This live-fire and bombing will cause irreversible damage to these islands and to all life that lives there. The bombing and live-fire will also damage and destroy known archaeological sites that encompass the breadth of Tinian history, historic landmarks, and culturally important areas, including "traditional cultural properties." Pagan Island is the largest and most complex biologically and geographically among the northern islands of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This is a disaster for a tourist-based economy and for the people who call these islands home. Don't let the military take this beauty away from you, your children and your children's children. Speak up and protect your future, your environment and all creatures that can't speak up for themselves.


Gail Norita

Garapan, Saipan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Light and variable winds.

▲88° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Light and variable winds.

▲88° ▼77°


FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼77°


SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

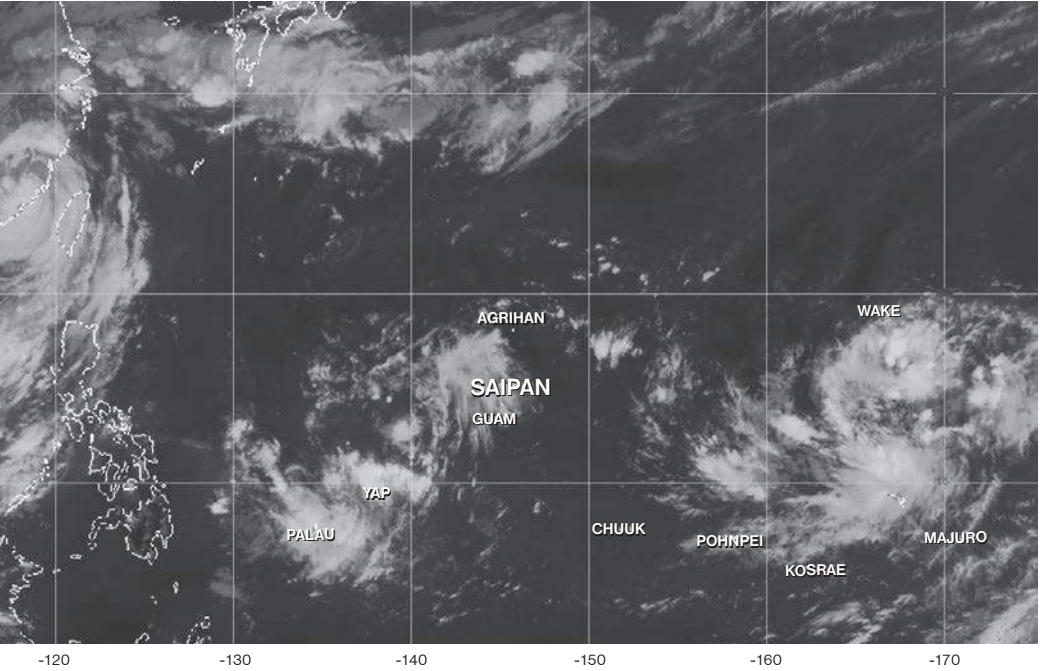
SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak circulation is centered near Yap at about 9N140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across the Republic of Palau and Yap State are between 5N and 11N from 132E to 141E. A surface trough runs northeastward from 12N141E to 17N145E with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near the Mariana Islands within 150 miles of the trough. A monsoon trough extends eastward from north of Pohnpei at 13N155E through a tropical disturbance centered northeast of Kwajalein at about 13N172E to beyond the date line at 15N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are in patchy areas from Pohnpei and Kosrae to Kwajalein and just south of Wake Island between 5N and 17N from 158E to 171E and northeast of Majuro between 13N and 18N from 171E to 180. Surging southwest winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Tarawa and Butaritari Atolls south of 4N from 172E to 178E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
Palau	Cloudy	▲86	▼75
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼76
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼81
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Kosrae	Cloudy	▲83	▼75
Majuro	Cloudy	▲84	▼78

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼47
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼57
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼73
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼69
London	Fair	▲64	▼46
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼58
Manila	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼44
Miami	Fair	▲81	▼76
New York	Rain	▲70	▼65
Osaka	Fair	▲79	▼49
Paris	Sunny	▲65	▼40
Busan	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼54
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼52
Salem	Sunny	▲74	▼49
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲56	▼53
Seoul	Fair	▲75	▼47
Tokyo	Fair	▲72	▼55
Washington, DC	Showers	▲75	▼68



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
3:57 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.1 Feet
10:09 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
4:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
9:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:05 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:05 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:02 PM	7:56 AM
Thursday	8:55 PM	8:57 AM
Friday	9:48 PM	9:57 AM
Saturday	10:42 PM	10:55 AM
Sunday	11:36 PM	11:51 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7
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ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7
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SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT
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SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
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SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7
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SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
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SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM
UA5063/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
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ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
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PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
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NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
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SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
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BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
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GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
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MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

New leadership for the Micronesia Conservation Trust

The Micronesia Conservation Trust board and management staff met in Guam at the Ernst & Young office from Sept. 23 to 25 to adopt a new three-year (2016-2018) Strategic Action Plan for the organization and to organize its board of trustees.

The organization, which was established in 2002 to support local, national and regional programs for biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and sustainable development for the people of Micronesia, adopted a new vision—"Enduring partnerships that conserve our land and sea to improve quality of life for communities across Micronesia"—and will focus on three main impact areas: Conservation, Climate Resilience, and Sustainable Livelihoods.

Outgoing board chair Kembo Mida said: "MCT strives to be a world-class organization that is truly Micronesia." This means the MCT board and management work hard to meet the requirements of international donors in order to bring more financial and technical resources to the region, while maintaining its ability to prioritize and focus on the needs and aspirations of local communities by making its programs highly accessible to them.

At the meeting, the board and the senior management team—executive director William Kostka, deputy executive director Lisa Andon, and finance officer Meileen Albert were able to finalize MCT's 2014 annual audit with Ernst & Young and received an update on MCT's investment portfolio from Jason Miyashita and Maree Pelkey of the Asia Pacific Group of Raymond James.

The board also welcomed three new trustees: former CNMI lieutenant governor Diego Benavente; Haser Hainrick, current Public Auditor for the Federated States of Micronesia; and Julian Aguon, a private lawyer in Guam whose practice focuses on international and regional human rights laws.

The board and staff also bid farewell to two of its leaders who had each served two full terms over the past six years: Mida, who was chairman for the past two years, and Denise Adams Boylan, representing the private sector, who served as the organization's board treasurer.

They leave the organization in the hands of the new leadership of board chair Doreen deBrum, Assistant Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Marshall Islands; board vice chair Elbuchel Sadang, Palau's Finance Minister; board secretary Jared Morris, CEO of the FSM Petroleum

Corp./Vital; and board treasurer Hainrick.

The MCT board has four standing committees:

■ The Governance Committee is chaired by Trina Leberer, the new director of The Nature Conservancy's Pacific Program. Members of the Governance Committee include Aguon and Debrum.

■ The Finance, Audit and Investment Committee is chaired by Hainrick, with Sadang and International trustee Megumi Araki, currently with Japan's Association for the Promotion of International Cooperation and formerly with the Asian Development Bank.

■ The Partnership and Development Committee is chaired by Carlotta Leon Guerrero, former president of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures while serving in the Guam Legislature and currently with the Ayuda Foundation, a humanitarian organization in Guam that has been very active in the Maysak and Soudelor typhoon recovery efforts in Chuuk, Yap, and the CNMI. Benavente and international trustee Dan Martin, formerly with the MacArthur Foundation and based in Washington DC, are members of this committee.

■ The Technical Committee, which is currently chaired by Morris with Leberer as member. MCT's Technical Committee is the only committee that includes non-board member scientists, community experts, and academics, etc., to assist MCT with its grant-making and capacity building programs.

Along with its numerous community development programs, MCT was selected in 2006 by the presidents and governors of the Micronesia governments and the Global Environment Facility-United Nations Environment Programme, The Nature Conservancy, and Conservation International to serve as the financial mechanism for the Micronesia Challenge Endowment Fund (www.micronesiachallenge.org).

"We now manage an \$18 million endowment for the Micronesia Challenge," said deBrum. "The board and management take this responsibility very seriously and have made sure over the years to have appropriate leadership, systems and processes in place in order to assist the Micronesia governments succeed in delivering on this initiative, which they made as part of their commitments to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and their gift to the world." (MCT)



The Micronesia Conservation Trust has a new board in place. Representing the CNMI on the board is former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services [DFEMS]

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Fire Cadets

POSITION AND SALARY: Fire Cadet
The salary given will be determined by the qualification of the appointee.

PL: 18/01 **\$502.04 B/W - \$13,052.98 P/A**

LOCATION: Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS)

TRAINING & REQUIREMENT:
Undergoes Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers trainings and certifications in accordance with the American Heart Association 2010 Emergency Cardiac Care Guidelines. Undergoes Emergency Medical Technician trainings in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation 2009 National Standard Curriculum and certification from the National Registry of EMTs for the EMT. Undergoes the National Fire Protection Association 1001-2008, Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications trainings and certifications in accordance with the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualification for Firefighter I. Undergoes the National Fire Association 472-2008, Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents trainings and certifications in accordance with the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualifications for Hazardous Materials – First responder Awareness, Operations, and Decontamination. Undergoes the National Fire Protection Association 1002-2009, Standards for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications trainings and certifications in accordance with the National Board of Fire Service Professional Qualifications for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator. Undergoes Emergency Vehicle Operator Course – Ambulance training in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation 1995 National Standard Curriculum. Undergoes intense physical fitness trainings and exercises in applying basic techniques and common practices for firefighting and EMS. Undergoes orientation to the CNMI Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations, DFEMS Rules and Regulations, DFEMS Standard Operation Procedures, and EMT field treatment protocols. Undergoes strenuous physical and mental training and discipline to maintain superior strength, agility, and stamina to competently carry out their duties in firefighting and EMS to be considered fit for duty. Performs "observer" on-the-job-training duties on the ambulance, rescue unit, and fire truck. Must successfully complete all the required training and education programs conducted at the Fire Academy prior to graduation to become employed as a Firefighter I in the Department of Fire & EMS. Failure to meet any of these requirements, the employee will be subject to termination.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:
Graduation from High School, General Education Development (GED) or Advanced Development Institute (ADI). Must pass the English placement, physical fitness & agility test and do well on the job interview and background check. Copy of diploma OR official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

NOTE: Education and training claimed under item (24)A through (H) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma or certificate. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.

INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD SEND THEIR CURRENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:

Office of Personnel Management Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950	Office of Personnel Management Songsong Village Rota, MP 96951	Office of Personnel Management San Jose Village Tinian, MP 96952
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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 15-022

Opening Date: June 04, 2015
Closing Date: October 02, 2015

Executive Director (Revised Closing Date)

Duties: Work under the direct supervision of the Board of Directors or his/her designee. Supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Assumes full management responsibility for all of CUC's divisions and services. Directs and oversees the strategic planning, development and implementation of programs and services; directs operations within financial constraints and in accordance with CUC policies, regulations, and under the direction of the Board. Monitors and evaluates efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and processes; assesses and monitors service delivery levels; identifies opportunities, weaknesses and strengths of divisions; directs the implementation of changes. Plans, directs and coordinates work of divisions through the upper management team by meeting with management to identify, prioritize and resolve problems. Manages the development and implementation of goals, objectives, missions, policies, priorities and allocations of resources. Participates on a variety of board and committees and attends a wide variety of management meetings. Performs short and long-range strategic planning. Prepares and submits annual budget recommendations and financial analysis for Board approval; implements, communicates and administers approved budget; ensures fiscal compliance. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION(S): Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: Based on credentials and specialized experience as a utility executive in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.

CONTRACT: Two-year, subject to renewal.

POSITION(S): One (1).

Minimum Requirements:

Successful candidates for CUC's Executive Director must have the following:

- Education or Education/License Combination:
 - Master's degree in management, engineering, finance, or public administration, "OR", in the alternative, a bachelor's degree in engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standards in either the civil, mechanical, or electrical branch;
- Experience:
 - Senior management experience of at least ten (10) years in a similar wastewater, drinking water, and/or power utility (preferably combined utility), with similar or greater capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training and implementation needs.
 - In addition, the Executive Director (ED) shall demonstrated the following: Proven management and communication skills;
 - Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff;
 - Experience with managing major drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; and Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; bond funding; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge of:
 - Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances;
 - Advanced managerial principles, practices and techniques;
 - Leadership principles;
 - Utility service administration principles and practices;
 - Financial management and forecasting principles;
 - Strategy development principles and procedures;
 - Contract management principles;
 - Risk management principles;
 - Customer service principles;
 - Project management principles;
 - Modern office technology.
- Skill in:
 - Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards;
 - Managing, monitoring, and evaluating subordinates;
 - Providing organizational leadership and administration;
 - Developing and executing strategic plans, programs, and policies;
 - Planning and oversight of organizational programs and functions;
 - Providing strategic and visionary thinking;
 - Providing short and long-range planning, development and implementation;
 - Forecasting, developing and administering organization budget;
 - Critical thinking and independent decision making;
 - Providing legal, policy and contractual compliance oversight;
 - Serving as organization representative to management, the Board and external stakeholders;
 - Preparing and delivering public presentations;
 - Providing fiscally sound decision making;
 - Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications;
 - Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.
- Driver's License:
 - Must have a CNMI driver's license or one from a U.S. jurisdiction.

RELOCATION EXPENSES: If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed \$10,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed \$5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

SUBMISSION PROCESS: To apply, please submit a resume, cover letter, a list of references, and a CUC Employment Application by one of the following means:

1. United States Postal Service, First Class Mail or Priority Mail*:
Human Resource Office
Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
P. O. Box 501220 Saipan, MP 96950-1220 USA
*If you choose to submit via USPS, please still also fax "or" email "or" drop off your package.
2. Fax: 670-235-5131
3. Drop Off:

Drop off your package at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or Rota Administration Office.

POLICIES: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is an equal opportunity provider and employer and will not discriminate or tolerate discrimination against any employee or applicant in any manner prohibited by law.

It is also the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

American Samoa gets \$7.3M from OIA for infra needs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina announced Friday the release of more than \$7 million in grant funding to American Samoa through the Office of Insular Affairs' Capital Improvement Project Program. The funds support Gov. Lolo Moliga's priorities and much needed improvements to critical infrastructure in the territory.

"These infrastructure projects are vital to economic development in American Samoa as they bolster the territory's transportation, health, education, and water systems," said Kia'aina. "I

am particularly pleased to support the repair of public school buildings as part of OIA's Insular Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms Initiative. The funding will be used to address high-priority health and safety deferred maintenance items identified in our most recent assessment of school buildings in the territories."

Grants awarded this week were as follows:

■ **\$1,000,000 to implement maintenance and repairs to public schools** as established in a memorandum of understanding entered into by the Office of Insular Affairs, the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers, and the Territory of American Samoa to address critical health and safety structural repairs. The deferred maintenance reduction program will begin in January 2016, and current funds will be used to address electrical, fire alarm installation, plumbing system, and roofing repairs. Implementation of this MOU is guided by the Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms (Insular ABCs) Initiative and follows a USACE visit to American Samoa in July to finalize the operating agreement, identify work plan priorities and conduct a school facilities management workshop for American Samoa Department of Education staff. The Insular ABC assessment shows that deferred maintenance items in the Territory total \$13 million.

■ **\$300,000 to the Department of Port Administration** to provide the required local match to federal funding received from the Federal Aviation Administration. The match will enable FAA projects, which include improvements to the Airport Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting facility, upgrades to runway lights, and a new security perimeter fence at the Fiti'uta Airport.

■ **\$1,939,180** to supplement prior year grant funding and local funding for the design and construction of a ferry vessel to provide reliable passenger/cargo transportation to and from the Manu'a Islands. Not only will the vessel improve services and trade between the capital Pago Pago and the Manu'a Islands but will also provide safer, more comfortable and more efficient travel. The vessel, being built to meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements, will be 140 feet in length, and have capacity for 100 passengers, cargo, diesel fuel for Manu'a power plants, vehicles and other heavy equipment. The total project cost stands at \$13 million with OIA providing \$9 million in CIP funding and American Samoa providing an additional \$4 million.

■ **\$940,000 to the American Samoa Shipyard** for procurement of equipment and supplies needed to restore the 3,000-ton slipway, the shipyard's top revenue generator and only provider of dry-docking services. The slipway will be restored to meet required tuna fisheries and maritime industries standards making this project of high economic development value and a priority for the territory as a whole.

■ **\$500,000 to provide a fully equipped and operational Primary Care Center**
See SAMOA on Next Page



We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude. Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

CLUBMATES

Applicants must have previous related work experience and must pass all American Red Cross Lifeguard requirements (including a 300 yard continuous swim test); Sports-minded individuals are encouraged to apply; Must possess good verbal and written communication skills; Korean, Japanese and/or Russian language skill is a plus; Paid training and free two year lifeguard certification course for eligible candidates; Must be able to work on evenings, weekends and holidays.

FOOD & BEVERAGE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Minimum of three (3) months of work experience preferably in hospitality; Must be a high school graduate or higher; Must have strong communication skills; Must be proficient in Microsoft Office programs; Basic knowledge of Graphic Design is preferred but willing to train; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

LAUNDRY ATTENDANT

Minimum of three (3) months of work related experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT

Minimum six (6) months of work related experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.



MERCHANDISE COORDINATOR

Applicant must have a minimum of one (1) year of work experience handling clerical work involved with receiving, storing, stocking, inventory and distribution of supplies for the Boutiki store. Must have good computer skills and have the ability to bend, lift, carry, push, reach and handle inventory supplies weighing 50-75 pounds. Must have the ability to speak, read and comprehend the English language. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

SALES ASSOCIATES

Seeking a highly motivated sales associates to join our team. The ideal candidate will have customer service experience and be able to work flexible hours. Bilingual in Japanese, Korean or Russian a plus. Previous Retail experience preferred, but we are willing to train. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

TEAM LEADER

Team Leader reports to the Store Manager and is responsible for delivering Budgeted Sales and Productivity through the effective supervision and management of the sales staff. The Team Leader is also responsible for opening and closing the store as required. Attention to detail and able to analyze employee and guest challenges. Must have good organizational skills, communication skills (oral and written) and customer service skills. Must be supportive, positive, constructive member of the Boutiki Team. Be a role model of the Hotel's Vision, Mission and Values. Follow and enforce Hotel Policies and Procedures. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Wednesday, October 7th, 2015.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Needy mother-in-law plays the diva in family drama

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for 22 years. My father-in-law's health declined and he died last year. My mother-in-law, "Babe," and I didn't get on well in the past, but we have seemed to patch things up.

Since my father-in-law's death, she has become very needy. As a result, my father has been at her beck and call, and I have become closer to her, too. My mother has started to become suspicious of the relationship between Babe and my dad. They have been seen drinking together and ignoring my mother.

Abby, this has become a horrible mess. Babe says she has kissed my father and they are attracted to each other. She has no regret about her behavior. I think she's a hussy! My mother is now suicidal, and it's all I can do to keep her afloat. I am a cancer survivor and don't need any of this stupid drama. Please help. These people are all pushing 70. This is not only affecting my marriage, but also my life.

M.I.L. FROM HELL

DEAR M.I.L. FROM HELL: Babe may be "needy," but she appears to also be a shameless predator, and your father appears to have the judgment of a 16-year-old. Please tell your mother that suicide is not the answer, and she should not consider doing your father the "favor" of turning him into a grieving widower. It may take the help of a therapist to help her regain her sense of balance, and possibly the services of a lawyer to help her convince her husband that a divorce would be something he can't afford at this point in his life.

You should not be trying to handle this on your own. For your own sake, make yourself less available to your mother-in-law. That she would brag to you about trying to wreck your parents' marriage is beyond the pale.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Neil" for seven years. I find him attractive, but when we're intimate my mind often wanders and Neil becomes "someone else." There is always a provocative scenario, and he becomes a character.

I feel guilty and ashamed. I have tried to visualize only my husband, but it doesn't have the same effect. I have prayed about it, but I can't stop. Because of my shame I have begun to reject him. Is there any hope?

HIDING SOMETHING IN FLORIDA

DEAR HIDING SOMETHING: Please stop punishing yourself. Sexual fantasies are nothing to be ashamed of—they are normal. Whether in your imagination you're being made passionate love to by Brad Pitt, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson or George Clooney, as long as it happens in your husband's arms and you're both enjoying it, you're fine.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: What is proper protocol on who should greet whom first? I work in an office at the front desk and I'm in the office before other employees arrive. When they arrive, who should say good morning first, I or they?

EARLY BIRD IN THE EAST

DEAR EARLY: If you are at the front desk, you are the "official greeter," so rather than stand on ceremony, present a friendly demeanor and say hello first. A warm hello makes everyone's day brighter, don't you think?

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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Dear Abby

Commerce's CSD currently has no director

The Central Statistics Division of the Department of Commerce currently has no director.

According to Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, CSD director Alfonsis Sound recently left the department.

"It was a personal choice," Rabauliman said. "His wife got a job off-island and he followed suit."

Rabauliman said Sound left the CNMI around mid-August.

Sound has been working with the department as one of its division directors for two years prior to his resignation.

With CSD having no director, Rabauliman now directly oversees the CSD but he said they will look for an acting director soon.

"I'll be making an announce-

ment soon to the administration to provide this office, at least for the interim, an acting director," he said.

He added that they will be getting someone from their own office as of now due to the challenges brought by Typhoon Soudelor to their workflow. For one, the Department of Commerce building on Capital Hill

is still using generator power.

"Just in-house for now because with all this recovery mode, it's kind of hard to work through the normal challenges," Rabauliman said.

Rabauliman said they will revisit the position again when things are back to normal. *(Frauleine Michelle S. Vil-lanueva)*

SAMOA

From Page 14

nursing area, and space for records management.

■ **\$100,000 for Samoana High School** to furnish a new two-story classroom building which houses eight classrooms, a computer laboratory and re-

strooms. Construction on the building is ongoing at the high school using prior year CIP funding.

■ **\$1,000,000 to the American Samoa Power Authority** for improvements to the water distribution system. Upgrades to water mains will allow for installation of fire hydrants in neighborhoods

that currently lack these fire protection measures.

■ **\$1,000,000 for the Pago Pago International Airport** to remove a public safety hazard by relocating the fuel tank farm from its current location at the rear of the airport public parking lot, deemed to be the territory's single most significant terrorism vulnerability by both the FAA

and the Department of Homeland Security. Existing equipment that is approaching the end of its useful lifespan will also be replaced.

■ **\$464,850** of funding will be set aside for implementation of a long-term preventative maintenance program for all CIP-funded infrastructure projects in American Samoa. *(OIA)*

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

- Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
- Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
- Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

- Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
- Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
- For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

- Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

(A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and

(B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

- Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
- Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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This community outreach ad is funded by a grant made possible under the USDOL Employment and Training Administration.

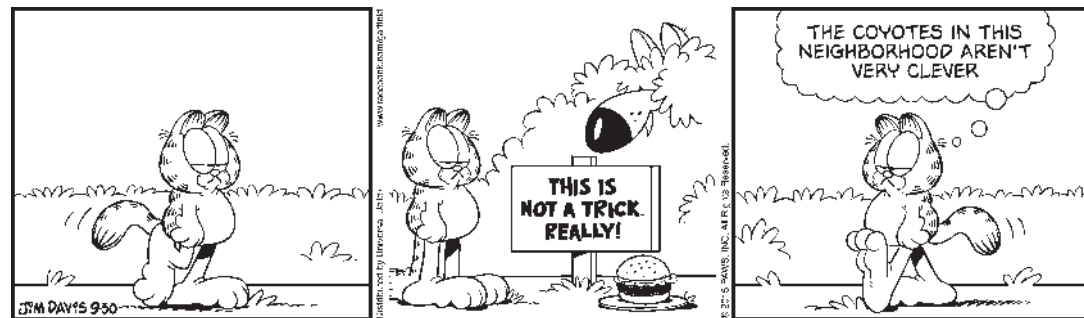
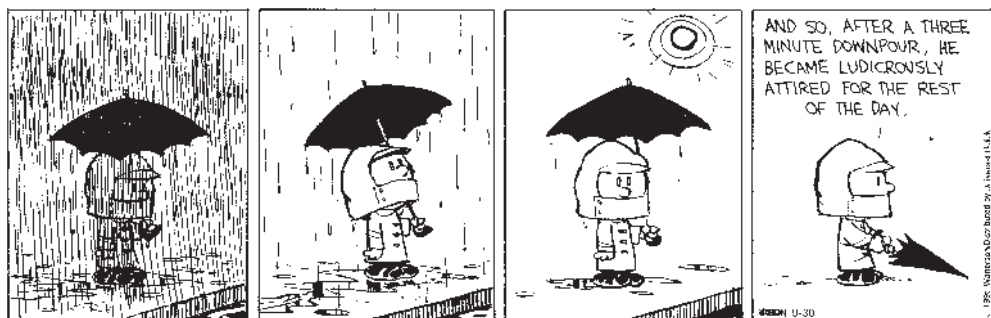
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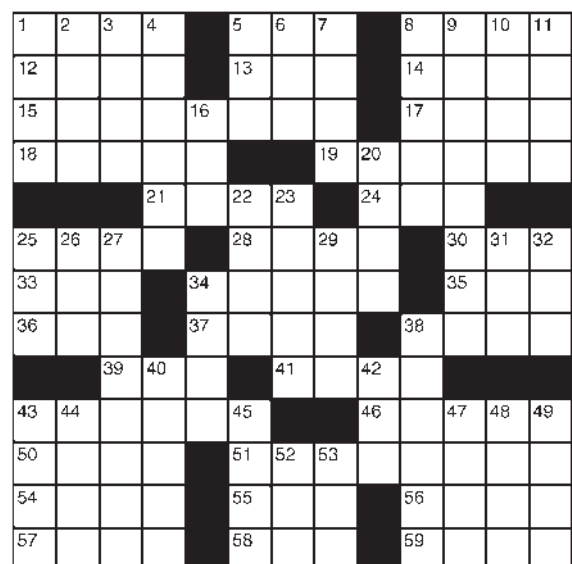
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mosque
5 \$ dispenser
8 Prayer
12 Unrivaled
13 Feathery
14 Exceptional
15 Sightseeing stop
17 Determination
18 Hackneyed
19 Brings forth
21 Differently
24 Moreover
25 Punch's partner
28 Fruit seeds
30 Totally dominate
33 From — Z
34 Sired
35 Trouble
36 Kitten's comment
37 Reverberate
38 Recognize
- DOWN**
- 39 Bom
41 Larger — life
43 Unisex top
46 Humphrey, to friends
50 Nano, e.g.
51 Birthplace
54 Gentlewoman
55 Rage
56 Grown-up
57 Watchful one
58 Gender
59 Ollie's pal
2 Castle protection
3 Actress
4 Musical
5 Lawyers' org.
6 Anderson's "High —"
7 Create
8 Electric bulb
9 Sale sign
10 Canal zone
11 Trawler gear
16 Gibson or Brooks
20 Expansive
22 Detail, briefly
23 Rowing crew
25 Predicament
26 Multipurpose truck
27 Unpretentious, in the South
29 Milne
31 Court
32 Fresh
34 "Cheers" order
38 Mounds down
40 Duck
42 Honest politician
43 Ocean motion
44 Fix, in a way
45 Anything but that
47 Pace
48 Old Peruvian
49 Paradise
52 Raw rock
53 Tex — cuisine

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-30



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lacey Chabert, 33; Marion Cotillard, 40; Jenna Elfman, 44; Fran Drescher, 58.

Happy Birthday: Take inventory, and you'll figure out what you have going for you and what you have to improve. Once you set a course, there will be no stopping what you can achieve. A contract or proposition from someone you have worked with in the past will tie into plans you have been contemplating. Romance will improve your personal life. Your numbers are 3, 10, 18, 23, 32, 39, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Focus on improving your health. Get involved in programs that can alleviate issues that have been hindering you. With a little discipline, you will find yourself feeling and looking great. Today is a terrific day to go in for an interview. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a broader look at new possibilities. Don't let stubbornness stop you from doing the things you want to do. Try to get along with everyone and expand your friendships along with your interests. A day trip will enlighten you. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make plans with friends or colleagues. Pass information back and forth, and you will discover you have something in common with those who can help you advance. A romantic gesture will entice you, but your reputation will be at stake. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Concentrate on what's important to you. Don't get into a dispute with someone you live

with. Get out with a friend, relative or someone who shares your interests. A new hobby will help defuse any anxiety you are feeling. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Set your standards high and follow the course to victory. You have what it takes to win if you don't let your emotions take over and lead you down the wrong path. Focus on accomplishments and refuse to let anyone belittle your efforts. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Check out different lifestyles, philosophies or ways of doing things and you will gain perspective. Don't feel too much pressure from the demands someone is making. Offer what you can, but not at the expense of personal happiness. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't make a promise and neglect to follow through just because someone makes you a better offer. Accept changes, but add your own personal touches as well. A problem will be solved if you are open to suggestions. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Complete your chores or responsibilities before you socialize. Don't take the chance of upsetting someone you care about. Being agreeable and getting along with others will ensure that love can conquer all. Plan a romantic evening and enjoy. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Any chance you get to make personal improvements should not be overlooked. Change is good and will help you avoid being criticized for overlooking some of the not-so-great habits you've been ignoring. Strive to be your best. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll be broadsided by someone who you thought was on your side. Avoid joint ventures and concentrate instead on making the personal gains that will result in better living conditions as well as future opportunities. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Not everything will go according to plan if you rely too heavily on friends, relatives or neighbors. Take on responsibilities to ensure that things get done the way you want. Make a point to invest in your future, not what someone else is doing. ★★

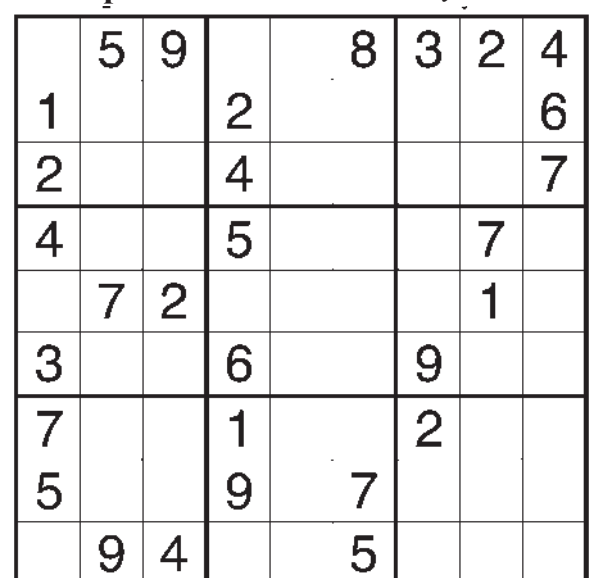
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Avoid any sort of trouble or disputes with someone you are in a partnership with. Both personal and professional relationships will be difficult to handle. Focus on working at your own speed on the projects that you know you can do alone. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, reliable and fair. You are persistent and helpful. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

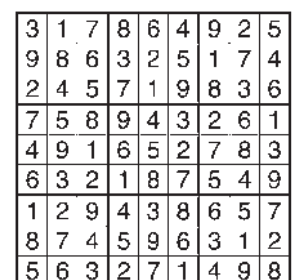
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

9/30

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BOATING:

Solution: 6 letters



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Yesterday's Answer: Vitreous

Treasury 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 or 21 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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Cardinals inch closer to NL Central title, top Pirates, 3-0



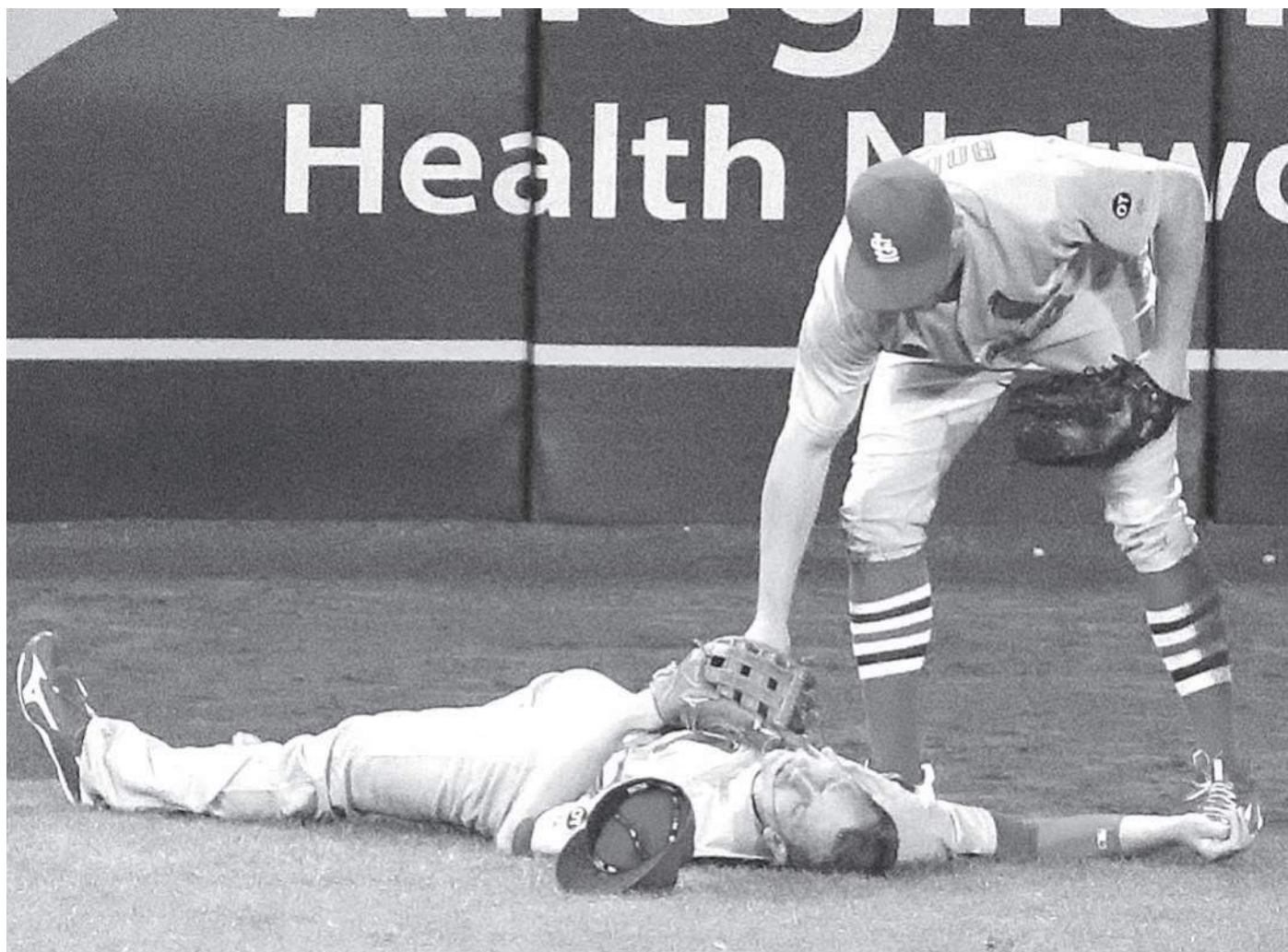
PITTSBURGH
(AP)—Matt Carpenter raced

home to break a scoreless tie in the ninth inning when two Pittsburgh Pirates outfielders mishandled Jon Jay's single, and Mark Reynolds followed with a two-run homer to lift the banged-up St. Louis Cardinals to a 3-0 win on Monday.

The Cardinals reduced their magic number to clinch a third straight NL Central title to two after getting to Pittsburgh closer Mark Melancon (3-2). St. Louis can wrap up the division with a victory at Pittsburgh on Tuesday.

In the bottom of the seventh, Cardinals outfielder Stephen Piscotty was carted off the field following a violent collision with teammate Peter Bourjos. The team said Piscotty was taken to the hospital with a head contusion, and tests were negative. He will be held overnight for observation.

Jonathan Broxton (4-5) earned the win, and Trevor Rosenthal got three outs for his 48th save.



AP
St. Louis Cardinals center fielder Peter Bourjos (8) checks teammate left fielder Stephen Piscotty after the two collided while catching a fly ball by Pittsburgh Pirates' Josh Harrison in the seventh inning of a baseball game in Pittsburgh, Monday, Sept. 28, 2015.

Greinke, who had his last turn skipped as he nursed a tender right calf, had his five-start winning streak broken dating to an Aug. 22 defeat at Houston.

Nationals 5, Reds 1

In Washington, On another eventful afternoon at Nationals Park, Washington right-hander Max Scherzer came within five outs of his second no-hitter of the season hours after closer Jonathan Papelbon was suspended for fighting with Bryce Harper a day earlier.

Scherzer (13-12) did not allow a hit until Tucker Barnhart singled to left field on a 1-2 count with one out in the eighth. That came on Scherzer's 105th pitch, and fans at the stadium rose to salute the right-hander with a standing ovation. To that point, the Reds only had three baserunners, on walks in the first, third and seventh innings.

Papelbon, meanwhile, is done for the season: He will miss four games because he was suspended by the Nationals for the episode in which he grabbed Harper's throat, and the other three games because he dropped his appeal of a Major League Baseball ban for throwing at an opponent's head last week.

Reds starter Brandon Finnegan (1-2) allowed three runs in five innings.

Astros 3, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Chris Carter drove in the go-ahead run with Houston's third solo homer, rookie Lance McCullers pitched effectively into the seventh inning and the Astros enhanced their position in a crowded American League playoff race.

Houston moved within 1 1/2 games of first-place Texas in the AL West and maintained its slim lead in the chase for the second playoff wild card. The Rangers lost 7-4 at home to the Detroit Tigers.

Carter broke 2-all tie in the seventh with his 23rd home run, a two-out shot to left off Danny Farquhar (1-6).

McCullers (6-7) allowed two runs and four hits in six-plus innings. He struck out seven and walked two, including a free pass to start the seventh.

Luke Gregerson struck out Nelson Cruz and Robinson Cano in the ninth for his 30th save.

Angels 5, Athletics 4

In Anaheim California, Pinch-hitter David Murphy drove a bases-loaded single into left field to end it, and the Los Angeles Angels kept the pressure on in the American League wild-card race with their sixth consecutive victory.

Albert Pujols tied it with his 558th career homer in the sixth inning for the Angels, who have won nine of 11 during their MLB-best 17-8 performance in September.

Johnny Giavotella and Erick Aybar had early run-scoring doubles as the Angels (82-74) remained a half-game behind the Houston Astros (83-74), who won at Seattle, and one game ahead of the Minnesota Twins (81-75), who beat

Cleveland.

Los Angeles also closed within just two games of the AL West-leading Rangers, who lost to Detroit. The Angels finish the season with four games at Texas.

Twins 4, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Emergency starter Tommy Milone replaced an ill Phil Hughes and pitched Minnesota to a big win for its wild-card playoff chances.

Hughes, one of several Twins players hit with a virus that has spread throughout the team, was scratched about 4 hours before the game. Milone (9-5), removed from the rotation two weeks ago, stepped in and allowed two runs in 5 2-3 innings.

Minnesota (81-75) began the day trailing Houston by 1 1/2 games in the race for the second American League wild card. The Astros played later in Seattle.

Cleveland (77-78) was four games behind the Astros before its costly defeat.

Kevin Jepsen worked the ninth for his 14th save.

Corey Kluber (8-16) allowed four runs in six innings and lost to Minnesota for the second time in a week.

Rangers 7, Tigers 4

In Arlington Texas, Justin Verlander allowed one run in six innings, and Tyler Collins' three-run home run sparked a five-run fifth inning as Detroit handed the Rangers their third straight loss.

Verlander (5-8) gave up a leadoff homer to former Detroit teammate Prince Fielder in the fourth. He allowed six hits and walked two while striking out five.

Collins pulled his fourth

homer of the season down the right field line to break a 1-1 tie. The homer followed a leadoff single by Dixon Machado and a double by Anthony Gose.

Colby Lewis (17-9) allowed six runs on 10 hits in 4 2-3 innings, his shortest outing since June 5.

It's Texas' longest losing streak since mid-August.

Cubs 1, Royals 0

In Chicago, Pinch-hitter Chris Denorfia led off the 11th inning with a home run, lifting the Cubs to the victory. Denorfia drove the first pitch from Miguel Almonte (0-2) into the left-field bleacher for the Cubs' MLB-leading 13th walk-off victory of the season. It was Denorfia's third homer of the season.

Fernando Rodney (2-0) pitched a scoreless top of the 11th to get the win.

The homer ended a pitcher's duel that was a makeup of a May 30 rainout. Both teams combined for eight hits.

Blue Jays 4, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, The Blue Jays edged closer to clinching the AL East title, getting a homer from Edwin Encarnacion and scoring a ninth-inning run to secure a comeback victory over the Orioles.

Toronto's fifth straight victory, coupled with the Yankees' loss to Boston, reduced the Blue Jays' magic number for securing the division to two.

After scoring twice in the eighth to pull even, the Blue Jays got the decisive run against Brad Brach (5-3). Dioner Navarro led off with a single, and was replaced by Dalton Pompey, who advanced on a single. After a sacrifice moved the runners up, Pompey scored when

Justin Smoak hit a dribbler to first and Chris Davis threw wildly to the plate.

Brett Cecil (5-5) pitched one inning and Roberto Osuna got two outs for this 20th save.

Ryan Flaherty hit a three-run homer for the Orioles, who have lost four straight.

Red Sox 5, Yankees 1

In New York, Eduardo Rodriguez became the first Red Sox rookie left-hander to win 10 games in 43 years, and Boston slowed the Yankees' march toward a postseason berth.

The Yankees had a chance to clinch their first playoff appearance since 2012 with a win—what would've been their 10,000th franchise victory—and losses by Minnesota, Texas and the Angels.

But scoreboard watching was rendered unnecessary when Travis Shaw and Jackie Bradley Jr. each hit a two-run homer off Ivan Nova (6-10). New York managed little offense after Alex Rodriguez's sacrifice fly in the first.

New York dropped five games behind Toronto in the AL East with six to play.

Eduardo Rodriguez (10-6) pitched six innings while supplanting John Curtis, who went 11-8 in 1972, as the most recent Boston rookie lefty to reach 10 wins.

Giants 3, Dodgers 2

In San Francisco, Zack Greinke and the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers were denied a playoff-clinching party for at least another day, losing to the Giants on pinch-hitter Alejandro De Aza's 12th-inning sacrifice fly.

Andre Ethier hit a tying groundout in the top of the

ninth, then the rivals needed three more innings to decide this one. With the Dodgers employing a five-man infield, De Aza hit a fly to left against Adam Liberatore for a victory that prevented San Francisco from being eliminated from the pennant race.

Yimi Garcia (3-5) took the loss.

Los Angeles lost its fourth straight game after a weekend sweep at Colorado and is five games ahead of the Giants with six to play.

Nats suspend closer Papelbon 4 games for fight with Harper

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bryce Harper is not quite sure what he could have done differently to avoid the dugout fight with teammate Jonathan Papelbon that resulted in the Washington Nationals suspending the closer for four games without pay.

"If you're in a bar or if you're in the dugout or if you're anywhere," Harper said Monday, a day after his scrap with Papelbon, "if someone grabs your neck, your first reaction is to do what I did, I guess."

Harper, a leading NL MVP contender, also indicated he would be OK with Papelbon returning to the Nationals in 2016. The reliever has an \$11 million guaranteed contract for next season.

"If 'Paps' can help us win a World Series next year, that's what I need. That's what this whole clubhouse needs," Harper said. "We can't be fighting or anything like that."

Papelbon will miss the rest of this season. On Monday, he dropped his appeal of a three-game ban from Major League Baseball for throwing at an opponent's head last week, and then missed Washington's 5-1 victory over Cincinnati. After that punishment ends, Papelbon serves the Nationals' suspension announced Monday.

Harper was held out of the home finale against the Reds for "his part in the altercation" with Papelbon, manager Matt Williams said.

Harper, though, said after Sunday's game that he was scheduled to be off Monday, anyway.

Asked whether he was disappointed at the way the Washington portion of his season ended, Harper said: "I've got three more years at Nats Park."

General manager Mike Rizzo said Papelbon's more severe discipline made clear who the club felt "was more at fault."

Rodgers throws for 5 TDs, Packers beat Chiefs, 38-28



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)— Packers coach Mike McCarthy is running out of superlatives to describe Aaron Rodgers.

Every week, his MVP quarterback dissects defenses in painstakingly methodical fashion.

Rodgers threw for 333 yards and five touchdowns, including three to Randall Cobb, and Green Bay beat the Kansas City Chiefs 38-28 on Monday night.

Rodgers led the Packers (3-0) on two successful first-quarter drives that ended with scoring passes to Cobb and rookie Ty Montgomery. He found James Jones for a 27-yard touchdown reception late in the second quarter for a 24-7 lead at the break.

"Aaron is a phenomenal player ... and playing great football," McCarthy said with a laugh. "I'll just keep saying it."

Green Bay built a 38-14 lead early in the fourth quarter before withstanding a late rush by Jamaal Charles and the Chiefs.

Charles rushed for three touchdowns for Kansas City



Green Bay Packers' Clay Matthews celebrates after sacking Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Alex Smith during the second half of an NFL football game Monday, Sept. 28, 2015, in Green Bay, Wis.

"Forcing (them) to punt that first half was pretty boring, being on the sideline," linebacker Clay Matthews said. "But, hopefully, this is just an indication of where we're headed as a defense."

Smith finished 24 of 40 for 290 yards and a touchdown.

Under pressure near his own end zone, Smith also threw an interception to Sam Shields at the Chiefs' 19 with about 7 minutes left in the third quarter. Shields returned it 15 yards, and on the next play, Rodgers found Cobb for a 4-yard touchdown and a 31-7 lead.

Rodgers and Cobb hooked up for another 4-yard scoring pass in the fourth. With the score, Rodgers set the franchise record with his fourth career game of at least five touchdown passes.

"That's a Hall of Fame quarterback, and we give him much respect," Johnson said. "It's not panic mode, but if we want to do good down the stretch, we're going to have to play a lot better against really good teams."

Kansas City stopped its long streak of no touchdown receptions by a receiver when Jeremy Maclin hauled in a 5-yard TD pass with 56 seconds left in the third quarter to get the Chiefs within 31-14.

'THE MACHINE'

From Page 20

Warz 17: Night of Champions last December where he lost to former flyweight champion and Trench Tech stablemate Josh "Chaos" Duenas (4-5, with 1 KO).

Duenas, however, was stripped of the title after failing to make weight in his planned defense of the 125-lb belt.

"Winning the title is really an awesome feeling. It makes me want to keep on doing what I do

best. I plan to defend it and keep the title on Saipan at all cost," added Manglona, whose only sport is mixed martial arts.

Manglona said that his Trench Tech Gym stablemates helped and motivated him to further hone his fighting skills.

"It's hard to explain but I have this wonderful team called Trench Tech Gym. We bonded not only as fighters but also as a family," said Manglona, who started his MMA training in 2011.

But the end result was the same for Kansas City, which lost its second straight.

"Green Bay did a nice job," said a curt Chiefs coach Andy Reid.

Another masterful perfor-

mance by Rodgers made for a difficult night for Reid's defense. Rodgers, who finished 24 of 35, again burned a secondary on free-play situations following defensive penalties. The longest play came on a 52-yard catch in the fourth quarter by Jones following an offside penalty, setting up Cobb's third touchdown catch.

"His ability to really process information is as good as I've ever been around," McCarthy said about Rodgers. The Chiefs were on alert for Rodgers' tendency to take advantage of free plays. They still got beat.

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"His ability to really process information is as good as I've ever been around," McCarthy said about Rodgers.

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They still got beat.

"This is not acceptable, and coach Andy Reid is not happy," Chiefs linebacker Derrick Johnson said.

The offense's ability to build big leads feeds into the Packers' philosophy of making the opposing offense one-sided. It helps when the Packers can stop the running game, too.

Despite the three touchdown runs, the Packers prevented Charles from making explosive plays, limiting him to 49 yards on 11 carries.

Up front, Green Bay controlled the line of scrimmage when it counted and got to Alex Smith for seven sacks.

Event fundraiser eyes 300 participants



The Pacific Century Fellows' Northern Marianas Chapter hopes to attract

300 participants from the community for its Back On Our Feet 5-kilometer fundraising event this Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Garapan Fishing Base.

The 5K fitness activity aims to further raise additional funds for Project Ayudu's rebuilding program of all homes destroyed by Typhoon Soudelor last month.

Project Ayudu, launched early this month, is hoping to raise \$150,000 to assist families

whose homes were damaged by Soudelor.

Event organizers said those who will join have the option to either run, jog, or walk from the Garapan Fishing Base, right across Kristo Rai Church to Quartermaster Road and back.

Registration forms can be picked up at the first floor of J.P. Center and Century Hotel in Garapan, and Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe. Participants can also register on the day of the event starting at 5am.

Registration fee is \$15 per person and it includes a free event T-shirt. Payments can be

made by either cash or check and payable to Project Ayudu.

The run, jog, and walk event starts at 6am along Beach Road, where kids strollers and wheelchairs for persons with disabilities will also be allowed.

Organizers are inviting families and friends to join this worthwhile fitness activity, which hopes to bring the community closer together after the devastation brought by Soudelor.

Raffle prizes will be given away after the fun run event.

Those who will join who are under 18 years old must have adult supervision during the run, jog, and walk. (Jon Perez)

CNMI

From Page 20

the second half, the Teen Ayuyus got some chances to score in the final frame.

"We managed to create a few breaks into the final third but to no avail. Despite the loss, the boys will continue to work toward that big win. All the coaches are asking is that they give it their all and do their best," Zapanta said.

"No major injuries from the match. James (Ermitanio) was subbed out by Alan (Hinson) for precaution 10-15 minutes into the second half. We will be keep-

ing an eye on his (Ermitanio) knee. Kennedy (Izuka) and Hunter (Jewell) were subbed out by Scott (Kim) and Yoshi (Mafnas) to bring in some fresh legs," the team manager added.

Joining Izuka and Jewell on the CNMI's starting 11 were goalie Chris Aninzo, John Diego Masga, Joel Fruit, Terrence Thosert-Belcher, Emmanuel Aniana, Chad Shankweiler, Sean Perez, and Jordan Butcher.

After their debut game in the Group H qualifier, the Teen Ayuyus rested yesterday morning before returning to the pitch in the afternoon to practice and

prepare for their second match in the tournament.

The CNMI faces Singapore today at 3pm (6pm Saipan time) at the SCG Stadium. Singapore is also coming off a loss, bowing to group favorite South Korea, 2-6, during the qualifier's opening match last Monday afternoon. Host Thailand completes the field and will play its first game in the qualifier against Chinese-Taipei at 7pm local time. The top finisher in the round-robin pool play will gain entry to the championship that will be held in Bahrain next year.

MAKALARO

From Page 20

sions off the former's errors. Makaloro Lang also got 3 more points from the two turnovers with Devero drawing a foul on Kevin Leomo and going 1-for-2 from the line and Greg De Leon converting a short jumper on a fastbreak play to bring their lead back to 10 and seal the win, 67-57.

Devero finished with a game-high 21 points, while his three other teammates also hit double

figures. Velasco chipped in 17 and Peredo and Matt Buenabaja tallied 14 and 10, respectively. Deleon Guerrero paced Purple Rain with his 16 points, while Bruce Berline recorded 12. Paul Bautista was the third Purple Rain to score in twin digits with his 11 points, but was a non-factor in the home-stretch when Makaloro Lang pulled away.

Meanwhile, Oh My J (4-2) and Red Rice (2-3) collide tonight at 5pm with the former hoping to bounce back from

a 58-67 loss to Mamba. Incidentally, Mamba was also Red Rice's opponent in its previous game with the latter stunning the league's co-leader, 80-55.

Makaloro Lang 68 – Devero 21, Velasco 17, Peredo 14, Buenabaja 10, Moises 4, Deleon 2.

Purple Rain 59 – Deleon Guerrero 16, Berline 12, Bautista 11, Reyes 9, Isip 5, Flores 4, Leomo 2.

Scoring by halves: 26-23, 68-59.

NMIFA holds meeting for fall season

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association and its Youth Committee are calling on representatives of participating clubs to attend a meeting for the upcoming 2015 NMIFA Youth Fall League.

Inputs and questions will be entertained in the 6pm meeting set at the executive office of NMIFA president Jerry Tan at the TSL Plaza in Garapan.

The fall league is scheduled to open on Oct. 10 and will have games in the co-ed

U6, U8, U10, and U12B (non competitive) and the boys U12, boys and girls U15, and boys U18 (competitive division). However, the number of matches in each division will be cut short as the league is forced to start the season late in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor. The youth league usually opens its fall season in August, but the kick-off was pushed back after Soudelor hit Saipan last Aug. 2.

The shortened fall season has five clubs participating in the U6 age group and seven teams each in the U8 and U10 divisions. In the U12B, there are three teams, while the U12A competitive field has five squads. The girls and boys U15 contests have six and seven squads, respectively, while only three will be playing in the boys U18 division. (Roselyn B. Monroy)





Cardinals inch closer to NL Central title, top Pirates, 3-0
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Rodgers throws for 5 TDs, Packers beat Chiefs, 38-28
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI falls to Chinese-Taipei

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Chinese-Taipei handed the CNMI a 10-0 beating at the start of the AFC U19 Championship Bahrain 2016 Qualifiers last Monday night at the SGC Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand.

The CNMI U19 National Team gave up an early goal to Chinese-Taipei and the latter picked up from there on en route to the lopsided victory.

"We have just completed our first match of the tournament. Unfortunately, we lost to Chinese-Taipei. The boys worked hard but were out-skilled by Chinese-Taipei," team manager Ruselle Zapanta said.

"The focus of the team was to create a defensive block, prevent the other team from penetrating the goal, and counter attack," Zapanta added.

Despite of the Teen Ayuyus' defensive stance, Chinese-Taipei's better offensive skills stood out right in the first few minutes of the first half, as it had multiple attempts and scored in the second minute off midfielder Kao Wei-Jie's goal. It went



on to knock in three more goals in the first 45 minutes of play to enter the dugout with a 4-0 half-time lead. Forward Chen Hung-Wei had a brace in the first half, lighting up the board in the 12th minute and 29th, while fellow forward Yu Chia-Huang registered the other goal in the 17th.

Chinese-Taipei kept going in the second half with Chia-Huang completing a hat-trick as he drilled two more goals (64th and 79th). Midfielder Chao Ming-Hsiu and another forward, Cheng Chun-Shien contributed two goals apiece with the former scoring in the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI U19 National Team's starting unit poses for a photo before playing against Chinese-Taipei in the AFC U19 Championship Bahrain 2016 Qualifiers last Monday night at the SGC Stadium in Bangkok, Thailand.

47th and 61st and the latter in the 73rd and in the first minute of stoppage time.

As for the CNMI, although it failed to hit the board anew in

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'The Machine' to pounce on every chance

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Jordan "The Machine" Manglona would want to pounce on every opportunity that comes his way whether fighting on home soil or getting the chance to showcase his mixed martial arts skills in Pacific Xtreme Combat.

Manglona, one of Saipan's promising fighters, is the reigning Trench Tech fly-

weight champion after beating Guam's Ernie Santos of Team High Blood Pressure in July's Rites of Passage 18: Warpath.

"I would work on whatever opportunity that comes my way. Anything that would bring me to the next level," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*. "But yeah, PXC sounds good. If there's a chance for me, I'll take it."

The 19-year-old fighter out of Trench Tech Gym recorded his third straight win after beating Santos (2-1, with 1 knock-out) by rear-naked-choke in the 3:59 mark of the first round.

Manglona, who managed to wiggle out of trouble when Santos took him down, patiently waited for the right moment and things to go his favor. He found an opening on Santos' defense where he sneaked in his arms to lock on his opponent's neck. Manglona, who used to run in athletics events, completed the chokehold forcing Santos to tap out.

He made his debut in Trench
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JON PEREZ
Jordan "The Machine" Manglona, right, reacts after winning the flyweight title against Ernie Santos of Team High Blood Pressure in Rites of Passage 18: Warpath last July.

Makalaro Lang back on top

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Makalaro Lang returned to the top spot in the team standings in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League following a 68-59 victory over Purple Rain yesterday at the Navy Hill court.

Makalaro Lang now has a 5-2 record for a share of the lead with Mamba, while Purple Rain absorbed its third straight loss for a 2-4 mark.

The Purple Rain-Makalaro Lang played only the last 17:59 of their rain-suspended Sept. 19 match. The game resumed with Makalaro Lang ahead by just 3 points, 28-25, and it remained close until the final 10 minutes of the match when Raymond Velasco, Ivan Devero, and Errol Peredo led a breakaway.

From a 44-39 advantage, Makalaro Lang stretched the

lead to 15, 64-49, with the trio combining for 18 points in the team's 20-12 scoring binge for seven minutes.

A short 8-0 run from Purple Rain anchored by R.J. Reyes' and-1 play and a split free throw and capped by Rey Deleon Guerrero's triple

cut the deficit to single digits, 57-64. However, that was the closest Purple Rain could get, as time was not on its side with only 1:23 left on the clock and Makalaro Lang managed to take the next two posses-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Makalaro Lang's Ernie Moises unloads an open jumper in front of Purple Rain's Ray Deleon Guerrero during the continuation of their rain-suspended match in the Blue Haus-IT&E caging last night at the Navy Hill court.